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BANGLADESH-PAKISTAN TALKS DEEMED FRUITFUL

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 27 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] The three-day Foreign Secretary-level talks between Bangladesh and Pakistan ended in Dacca on Sunday with a decision to set up an expert-level joint working group to discuss the issue of sharing of assets and liabilities between the two countries.

The two Foreign Secretaries also agreed to remove the present bottleneck in the repatriation of stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh. Before his departure on the day the Pakistan Foreign Secretary Mr. Reaz Piracha told newsmen that he was carrying with him the ideas of Bangladesh Government to solve the repatriation problem.

Following the three-day talks which both the Foreign Secretaries termed as "fruitful constructive and positive" a joint working group on sharing of assets and liabilities had been set up. The two Foreign Secretaries had asked the group to discuss the issue in detail and depth and submit its report to them. Asked whether any time limit has been fixed for submitting the report, the two Secretaries said, "as soon as possible the group will place its report". Foreign Secretary Mr. S.A.M.S. Kibria termed the setting up of the joint working group as a "positive outcome" of the three-day Foreign Secretary-level talks.

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary said his country was committed to the 1973 and 1974 agreements on repatriation of stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh. "We respect those agreements and we are also aware of the human aspect of the problem he said referring to the problems in the process of the repatriation of the stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh.

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary said, "We have have Bihari problems" which he discussed with his Bangladesh counterpart. When a correspondent asked what he meant about "Bihari problem" when those people are called as stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh, he after consultation with his Ambassador in Bangladesh said, "we call those people as non-Bengalees". Acknowledging the human side of the problem of the three lakh stranded Pakistanis he, however, said that this was not the only human problem and there were other such problems elsewhere and those also could not be solved.

Referring to the Bangladesh proposal for submit meeting for regional cooperation, the Pakistan Foreign Secretary said that his country agreed in principle to the idea. He termed this proposal as a "far-sighted move" by President Ziaur Rahman and the reflection of a "noble idea."

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary hoped that his visit would contribute in "depth and content" for further improving the relations between his country and Bangladesh and he described his visit as an "harbinger" for better friendship between the two countries. He said that during his three-day visit to Bangladesh he had lengthy and exhaustive discussions with his Bangladesh counterpart. The formal discussion which lasted for about ten hours in three sessions, he said "we discussed all the problems that came to our mind in a spirit of frankness and understanding and there were complete convergent views on those issues and the steps to be taken to solve those". He said, "now when we look forward we find full of promises in our relations". He observed that exchange of visits and views at various levels could help in further improving relations between the two countries.

Foreign Secretary Mr. S.A.M.S. Kibria termed his guest's visit as "fruitful" and said that he held discussions with his Pakistan counterpart on a large number of bilateral, regional and global issues.

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary called on President Ziaur Rahman on Sunday morning.

CSO: 4220

OPPOSITION PARTIES CALL FOR MASS MOVEMENT

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The ten-party Opposition alliance served on Tuesday an ultimatum to the Government for the acceptance of its two-point demand by November 20. The demands are the fulfilment of the 17-point charter of demands of the prisoners and the annulment of the government announcement to change the nomenclature of the National Independence Day on March 26 as the National Day.

In a resolution adopted at a public rally at the Baitul Mokarram as a part of the programme of the alliance for the observance of the hartal on the day, the ten Opposition parties announced that if the Government did not accept the demands by November 20, an all-out mass movement would be launched by the alliance from that day.

The rally was presided over by Mr. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury chief of the Bangladesh Awami League (Mizan) those who were present on the rostrum at the rally included Major (Retd) M A Jalil and Mr. Shahiahhan Siraj of Jatiyo Samajtrantik Dal, Mr Abdur Razzak and Mr Tofail Ahmed of Bangladesh Awami League (Malek) Messrs Moni Singh and Saifuddin Ahmed Manik of the Communist Party of Bangladesh Mr Haider Akbar Khan Rono of Bangladesh workers Party Maulana Abdur Rashid Tarkabagish of Gano Azadi League Chowdhury Haroonur Rashid and Mr. Pank Bhattacharjee of National Awami Party (Haroon Pankaj), Syed Altaf Hassain and Mr Suranjit Sen Gupta of Jatiya Ekota Party Messrs Mokhleshur Rahman and Nirmal Sen of Krishak Sramik Samajbadi Dal and Mr Muzaffar Hossain Paltu of Bangladesh Awami League (Mizan).

Mr Rashed Khan Menon MP of Bangladesh Workers Party conducted the proceedings of the rally, which sorted at 4 p.m. one hour behind the scheduled time.

Mr. Abdul Malek Ukil President of the Bangladesh Awami League (Malek) and Mr A.S M Abdur Rob, General Secretary of the Jatiyo Samajtranik Dal (JSD) were not present at the rally. The Awami League (Malek) and JSD to mention here, are the two, major components of the ten-party alliance.

The ten-party Opposition alliance did not endorse the unilateral call of the Bangladesh Awami League (Malek) for the observance of another hartal on November 3 to protest the declaration of March 26 as the National Day and that alleged political repression in the country.

The ten-party Opposition alliance in a resolution adopted at the rally congratulated the people for what it called their unstinted support and cooperation for making the programme of countrywide hartal on the day a success. It demanded the release of

all political Prisoners the withdrawal of "false cases" against political leaders including Mr Mohammad Farhad of the Communist Party of Bangladesh, the acceptance of demand for appeal in the higher courts on the part of all persons convicted under Martial Law, the introduction of immediate reforms in jail code and administration and the granting of bail for all under-trial prisoners.

Mr. Mizanur Rahman Choudhury demanded setting up of an enquiry commission comprising Parliament Members from all parties or leaders of different political parties to enquire into Khulna jail incident. He also called upon the Government to accept the two-point demand of the 10-party alliance within November 20. Demanding jail reforms, the Awami League (Mizan) leader said that the jail code of colonial time has not yet been changed.

Mr. Abdur Razzak, General Secretary AL (Malek) said that killing of prisoners inside jail cannot be allowed any further criticising the Government version of happenings in Khulna jail he wanted to know how the hostages taken by the prisoners could come out unhurt if there was a clash between the prisoners.

Major (Retd) M. A. Jalil alleging oppression by the Government, said that people no longer want to live without rights. He observed that through observance of hartal on Tuesday the people expressed their indignation against oppression. He further said that the Government which can not fulfil the demands of the people has no right to stay in power.

Mr. Moni Singh, President of the Communist Party of Bangladesh said that people have lost their rights were hard pressed due to high price of essentials and killings and dacoity were going on unchecked. He stressed the need for a movement to bring a change.

Mr. Nirmal Sen, called upon the people to pledge to build up a movement to achieve rights. He observed that the observance of hartal was an expression of no confidence against despotism.

Choudhury Mohammad Harunur Rashid, said that killing in Khulna jail was an exposé of fascist rule in the country and the observance of hartal has proved that this cannot go on further.

Mr. Haider Akbar Khan Rano stressed the need of an united programme of resistance against repression.

Syed Altaf Hossain alleged that blood-letting had become a normal practice in the country since the brutal killing of Bangobandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the members of his family on August 15, '75. He maintained that there had been concentration of land-holdings in a few hands and the enrichment of few at the cost of increasing miseries of the teeming millions due to what he stated pro-imperialist and anti people economic policies of the Government.

Prof Muzaffar Ahmed likened the jail killings in Khulna to that of genocidal activities in Kampuchea under the former Pol Pot regime. He was also critical of those political forces who opposed the sale of gas to India for mere cheap politics.

Maulana Abdur Rashid Taykabagish termed the killing of prisoners in Khulna jail as a barbarian act having no parallel in contemporary history. He alleged that the official Press Note on the incident in Khulna jail was "a pack of lies" and the Government was singularly responsible for the incident. He observed that there was no trace of democracy in the country. All that prevailed is a brazen manifestation of autocracy and fascism, he further alleged.

CSO: 4220

TEXT OF RAHMAN SPEECH TO COMMONWEALTH MEETING

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 5 Sep 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 4:--President Ziaur Rahman today called for a regional co-operation among the Commonwealth countries of Asia and the Pacific to pool their agricultural research capacity for development of appropriate technology in effectively dealing with the challenging problems of hunger and poverty, reports BSS.

Addressing the second sixteen nation summit conference of the Commonwealth countries of the Asia-Pacific region which began here earlier in the day President Zia spelt out a 12-point programme of action providing the framework for the cooperation to ensure effective speedy and economic pooling of their research capacities.

In his key-note speech on "cooperation for agricultural research" President Zia stressed "our goal is to achieve self-sufficiency in food and also develop and adequate system of food security within the shortest possible time so that our people do not have to go hungry and can live in dignity."

"The task ahead of us" he added, "is formidable and complex."

To forge a wider cooperation President Zia suggested building up of a research and communication network for dissemination of information in the sphere of a agricultural research among the member countries particularly in areas in which "we have complementary capacities to tackle priority problems of common concern.

President Zia said that Bangladesh supported the inclusion of "cooperation in agriculture" among the member countries in the agenda of the five-day regional conference in view of the importance given to development of agriculture in her Second Five-Year Plan.

President Zia re-emphasised the need for evolving a policy of active cooperation among the Commonwealth countries of Asia and the Pacific region to quickly develop the technology required by them to "influence the pattern and pace of agricultural productivity."

Increased agricultural productivity he said was of paramount importance with so many of our people living in a dismal state of malnutrition and hunger and our total development effort depending so much on the contribution of the sector.

The pace of progress which he said needed to be accelerated could to a large extent be achieved through cooperation among the scientists and scientific institutions of the member nations. Isolated efforts he added, have often been found to be expensive and slow.

President Zia also proposed setting up of a committee of experts to be drawn from member nations to study his suggestions and the possibilities for cooperation which exist to give its report as soon as possible.

His proposals spelt the frame work for attaining the objectives of the regional co-operation on the basis of shared interests and needs.

President Zia's twelve-point proposal for cooperation on regional basis included building up of a 'network approach' for training of young scientists consolidation of research gains on a joint footing to further improve the required technology, transfer of necessary technology among the member nations, establishment of a regional Commonwealth gene-bank to save the common priceless heritage of flora fauna and microbial life from genetic erosion, development of a monitoring service for study and control of pests and pathogens on a regional basis development of appropriate storage and processing facilities and techniques for conservation of agricultural produce setting up of a cooperative network to combat natural calamities and disasters which often erode away the small gains in productivity, preparation of a regional survey report of efforts for evolving appropriate agricultural research management systems by member nations for common benefit, creation of a pool of fertilizer for emergency needs and establishment of a seed bank, joints action to save time and funds in building necessary consultancy skill, establishment of a regional Commonwealth documentation centre to collect and disseminate technical literature on agriculture specific to the region so that the knowledge acquired by one could be quickly made available to others, and preparation of a detailed directory of technical know-how, places of advanced learning, technical manpower and consultancy potentials for pooling experiences and capacities in these fields for common benefit.

It is most unfortunate, President Zia said, that we know so little about our own specific capabilities in the region which could probably be harnessed for collective benefits.

"We must initiate, organise and promote cooperation among ourselves so that we can create, adapt, transfer and pool the knowledge and experience", President Zia said, to make the scientific methods and knowledge available to the rural masses for mutual benefit on a regional basis to achieve national objectives in agricultural production.

Full Text

The following is the full text of the keynote speech by President Ziaur Rahman on cooperation for agricultural research at the Second Commonwealth Heads of Government regional meeting

Madam Chairman.

Excellencies,

I am happy that I am able to participate in the second regional meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Government and people of India for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to me and the members of my delegation.

It gives me great pleasure to share some of my ideas with you on cooperation in agricultural research among Commonwealth countries of the Asia-Pacific region. We

supported the inclusion of this item in the agenda for our discussion in view of its important bearing on the development of agriculture which has been assigned the 'top-most priority in our Second Five-Year Plan. The importance of the development of the agricultural sectors in most of our countries can hardly be overemphasised. With so many of our people living in a dismal state of malnutrition and hunger and with so much of our total developmental effort depending on the net contribution which the agricultural sectors can make towards developing other sectors of our economies, increased agricultural productivity in our countries is, indeed of paramount importance.

Self-sufficiency in Food

The task ahead of us is formidable and complex. Although agricultural scientists have the capability of developing new technology to enhance crop and animal productivity many nations of region are still looking for effective ways to increase productivity. Our goal is to achieve self-sufficiency in food and also develop an adequate system of food security within the shortest possible time, so that our peoples do not have to go hungry and can live with dignity.

Thus, the pace of progress would, of necessity, have to be accelerated. To a large extent this can be achieved through cooperation among the scientists and scientific institutions in the region. Isolated efforts have often been found to be expensive and slow. In order that scientific methods and knowledge are available to our rural masses for use in agricultural production, we must initiate, organise and promote cooperation among ourselves so that we can create, acquire, adapt, transfer and pool the knowledge and experience for our mutual benefit on a regional basis and achieve our national objectives in agricultural production. We should build a research and communication network and promote wider cooperation and dissemination of information in the sphere of agricultural research among the commonwealth countries of our region, particularly in areas in which we have complementary capacities to tackle priority problems of common concern. There are a variety of ways in which these objectives can be pursued on the basis of our shared interests and needs.

It is most unfortunate that we know so little about our own specific capabilities in the region which could be profitably harnessed for our collective benefit. There are a number of areas in which regional cooperation will immediately yield profitable results. I would like to present a few suggestions for action in this regard.

(1) A 'network approach' for the training of our young scientists can be built by using the existing research institutes and programmes that have proved their ability to provide complementary training facilities for the whole region. This involves the identification, evaluations and, where needed strengthening of the national institutes of the member countries and making arrangements for cooperation under which the institutes or programmes are committed to providing training in agreed fields. Such a programme should cover all types of training from seminars and group-training schemes to post-graduate academic studies at selected institutes of the region. Upgrading and improvement of such facilities would be a part of the cooperation programme.

Rural Technology

(2) Many of the Commonwealth Member nations of the region face similar conditions on the rural technology front. Much has to be learnt from the existing indigenous

technology that is labour intensive and yet is sparing in the use of fossil fuel. In recent years, a surge of activity has taken place at the appropriate technology front, resulting in numerous innovations. This field is growing and new developments are taking place almost every day. Therefore, to harvest the maximum benefit from these developments, it is desirable that the research gains be consolidated and further improvements sought on a joint footing. This could be achieved through strong management, food processing, agricultural equipments machineries and farm-tools development. Holding of regional fairs on equipment machineries and supplies can help in the exchange of information and transfer of technology. Similarly there are other areas in agricultural research programmes where already available knowhow and facilities could be shared to ensure more rapid diffusion of new knowledge.

(3) The research equipment and gadgets imported from the developed countries are often inappropriate for our conditions. Some of the Commonwealth countries in the region have attained a fair degree of self-sufficiency in the manufacture of research equipment. With a cooperative effort, further progress can be made in this regard and those member countries which are lacking in this field could be helped through the transfer of necessary skills from others. In the field of manufacture, the maintenance skills also could be transferred with good results.

(4) Many of the important present day domesticated-crop plants have their origin in this region. Likewise, a good number of domestic and wild animals have originated in this part of the world. By joint efforts and cooperation this common priceless heritage can be saved from what has been called 'genetic erosion'. In order to collect, preserve and save regional flora and fauna having wide diversification and variability urgent cooperative efforts are necessary. I suggest the establishment of a Regional Commonwealth Gene-Bank for plants, animals and microbial life.

(5) Along with a multitude of crops and domesticated animals, a host of pests and pathogens have also evolved. Some of these have their alternate hosts residing in different countries (depending on the climate and elevation. Recent trend towards mono-variety cultivation of major cereal crops, over wide areas has further increased the vulnerability of agricultural commodities, cutting across country borders. Apart from effective forecasting or controlling the spread of pests and pathogens, regional cooperation to study them in greater depth and regional coordinated pest-pathogen monitoring service would therefore, be of great importance to the cooperating institutes and countries.

(6) Almost as important as production is the question of the conservation of agricultural produce, both in the field as well as after the harvest. To improve the appropriate post-harvest technology in our region much may be learnt from each other's experiences and practices. A close working contact could be established among the countries of the region to develop more appropriate storage and processing techniques for important agricultural commodities.

(7) Our region is prone to various natural calamities and disasters which often erode away the small gains in productivity and thereby weaken our agro-economic base. To combat such calamities it could be of value to set up a cooperative network which would research upon various facets of disaster preparedness namely forecasting monitoring pre- and post-disaster operations rehabilitation of land,

animals and rural population developing alternative strategies for speedy recovery from the disaster and render speedy help at the time of distress, irrespective of the country involved.

(8) The countries of this region are in the process of evolving appropriate agricultural research management systems for their individual needs. A number of models is available for scrutiny and study. A regional survey report could be prepared on these systems for the benefit of those member countries which are still looking for an appropriate strategy.

Agricultural Productivity

(9) Fertilizer is one of the most important inputs to raising agricultural productivity. Unfortunately, recent galloping increase in the price of fertilizer in the international market has made farmers in most developing countries utterly helpless. It is not enough that fertilizer is available in the market; it must also be accessible to the small and marginal farmers. Efforts must be directed towards that end. Actions need be taken on an urgent basis by the international community more particularly the countries of the region to stabilize price of inputs fertilizers in particular. Secondly to make fertilizer available speedily and in time the countries of the region should seriously consider creating a pool from which countries can draw in times of emergency. This may be similar to the proposed regional food security system advocated by Bangladesh and many other countries. In this way we shall be able to spare the poor farmers the agony of waiting for fertilizer vessels from distant places.

Like fertilizer seed is another vital input. Irrigation and fertilizer in conjunction with HYV seed have revolutionised agriculture. Unfortunately good seed research and multiplication are still the incipient stages in some developing countries. Seeds particularly wheat seeds, seed potato and vegetables seed have to be imported from developed countries viz, USA, UK, Netherland, Japan, etc. Planting and sowing time being limited due to natural factors dependence on imported seeds make agriculture hazardous. The need for establishment of a Seed Bank on regional level is therefore, a priority for green revolution in the region.

(10) This region has already reached self-sufficiency in consultancy potential and we have an excellent cadre of expertise available to consolidate and improve the quality of our agricultural research institutions and programmes. Through an effective evaluation of consultancy facilities, the needs could be satisfied from within the region, at least in those areas of research where better expertise is not available from elsewhere. The member countries would continue their individual efforts in their respective fields of competence and a way could be found for joint action to save time and funds in building necessary consultancy skills.

(11) A regional Commonwealth documentation centre needs to be established to collect and disseminate technical literature on agricultural subject-matter specific to the region. The existing libraries and documentation facilities of the Commonwealth countries of the region are too inadequate even for their own needs and definitely very ineffective for intercountry cooperation. Apart from improving the quality and working of library facilities, a grid for mutual data transfer needs to be built so that the knowledge acquired in one member country can be quickly made available to the other.

(12) It is unfortunate that regional assets of knowhow, places of advanced learning technical manpower and consultancy potential are not effectively catalogued. A detailed directory of such assets needs to be prepared and updated from time to time. A mechanism may be developed so that these resources are pooled and shared by the member countries for their common benefit.

The foregoing suggestions do not, by any means, exhaust the list of many promising opportunities for cooperation which exist in the field of agricultural research. I would propose that a Committee of experts drawn from the member countries be set up immediately to study these suggestions & other possibilities and report as soon as possible.

I would like to conclude by emphasising once again the need for pursuing an active policy of cooperation among Commonwealth countries of the region to ensure effective, speedy and economic pooling of their agricultural research capacities, so that technologies which will influence the pattern and pace of agricultural productivity can be developed quickly to deal with the challenging problem of hunger and poverty. I wish this meeting all success in its deliberations.

Thank you, Madam Chairman

Thank you, Excellencies.

CSO: 4223

CABINET MINISTERS SPEAK AT UN DAY SEMINAR

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Oct 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] "Bangladesh is firmly committed to uphold the United Nations charter for global peace and harmony."

This was the consensus of opinion at a seminar organised by the United Nations Association of Bangladesh in observance of the United Nations Day at a local hotel on Friday.

Finance Minister Mr Saifur Rahman who is also the President of UNAB was the chief guest at the seminar which was addressed by Information Minister Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury as special guest, Foreign Secretary Mr S A M S Kibria acting president representative of UNDP Mr Jehan Raheem and Mr. Syed Ahmed Hossain, Secretary General UNAB. The function was presided over by Prof. Kabir Chowdhury.

Mr Saifur Rahman said that Bangladesh was constitutionally committed to uphold the charter of the United Nations which, he said was the conscience keeper of humanity and provided a forum for negotiated settlement of conflicts and reduction of tensions in the world for the up keep of peace and harmony.

The Finance Minister described the criticism that the United Nations was a failure as mere cynicism. Although the world body did not prove to be very effective in crisis management it had played very important role in the economic and cultural front where it could make the nation-states interdependent, a phenomena never experienced by the humanity before.

He said that the success of the United Nations in all spheres depended on the collective will of all the 162 members.

He said that 85 per cent of the efforts of United Nations and its different agencies was being spent on global economic, social and cultural prosperity because the world body was conscious about the need for resource transfer from the richer nations to the least developed ones for social and economic equilibrium without which there could be no peace harmony.

Mr Saifur Rahman said the United Nations also called for introduction of a new international economic order for writing off the wrongs done in the past and a new international information order for correct projection of the situation and activities in the least developed countries.

He said that the Security Council meant for crisis management could not be effective because major powers did not want it to be so. He called upon the major powers to ensure rational use of the prerogatives vested in them for world peace.

Mr. Saifur Rahman called for making the Security Council more representative. He said that as a Security Council member Bangladesh would continue to play its role for world peace fearlessly and objectively.

Shamsul Huda

Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury called for more efforts for dissemination of information about the activities of the United Nations among the peoples of the world for creating consciousness about human rights and the ideology to live in peace.

He said that ignorance was a crime in today's world that was gradually becoming a single economic unit. Lack of information about the peoples stood in the way of proper appreciation of each others and international peace.

The Information Minister assured all cooperation and help for the United Nations Association of Bangladesh in setting up a United Nations information centre in Bangladesh.

He said that the working and the ideals of the United Nations and its agencies should form part of text books in all the member countries. The UNESCO should also prepare a large number of informative books to introduce the United Nations to the people of different countries he said.

On the role of the world body the Minister said although our expectation for total disarmament for effectively fighting the global war against hunger ignorance, illiteracy and ill health was yet to be materialised the United Nations has at least reduced the chances of a third world war for the last 35 years.

Foreign Secy

Foreign Secretary Mr S.A.M.S. Kibria said that despite its inherent weaknesses the United Nations has grown to be the focal point of international opinion which can often exert pressure on contending states to resolve conflict through peaceful means. The United Nations thus can play a decisive role in shaping the course of events he said.

For the weak and newly emerging nations, the United Nations had been a source of confidence and strength because it was playing a pivotal role in the economic and social spheres, he said.

Mr Kibria said that the role of the United Nations and its specialised agencies in improving the standard of life in the least developed countries deserved special appreciation. Such key sectors as food, agriculture, health, education, trade commerce industry and nuclear energy has been the focus of attention. Similarly the progress that has been made in the field of human rights would serve as a beacon for future generations, he added.

Jehan Raheem

Mr Jehan Raheem gave an outline of the role of the United Nations and its specialised agencies in different sectors and said that the world body could not solve the problems before it without the political will of the member states. He said that the world organisation can act only to the extent the member states use it creatively as an ongoing instrument to integrate and concilliate their diverse policies and priorities in the interest of world peace.

In his presidential address Prof Kabir Chowdhury said that the national governments of the least developed countries should not only seek a new international economic order for equal share of world's resources they should also ensure equal distribution of wealth among their own citizens. While talking about new international information order the national governments should also remove the obstacles to freedom of the press in their own countries he said.

Earlier, Mr Syed Ahmed Hossain outlined the activities of the United Nations Association of Bangladesh and sought government help for setting up a United Nations information centre in the country. The function was rounded off with a film show.

CSO: 4220

INFORMATION MINISTER REPORTS ON ZAGREB CONFERENCE

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 28 Oct 80 p 8

[Text] Bangladesh has offered to be the host of one of the regional sub-regional conference of the United Nations Scientific, Educational and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Dacca to be held in 1981. Information and Broadcasting Secretary Mr. Khorshed Alam said in Dacca on Monday reports BSS.

The offer was made at the ongoing UNESCO General conference being held in Yugoslav capital city of Belgrade.

The Information Secretary said that the offer has been accepted and details would be worked out with UNESCO in the follow up process.

Mr. Alam, alongwith Sports and Cultural Affairs Secretary Mr. Siddiqur Rahman and Editor of Bangladesh Times, Mr. Shahidul Haque, represented Bangladesh in the Cultural and Communication Commission of the conference which closes today (Tuesday). Among others the conference discussed the Macbride Commission report and work programme for 1980-83 of the UNESCO for both communication and cultural sectors, they returned home on Sunday.

Briefing newsmen on the outcome of the conference with specific reference to the Bangladesh proposals, the Information Secretary said that Bangladesh had made for giving more emphasis on the development of communication infra-structure in the context of Macbride Commission report, in both the work plan for 1980-83 and also the medium term plan for 1984-89.

In this context, he said Bangladesh had urged for giving special attention to the development of news agencies, printing facility, radio and television network and other publications in the developing member states.

The delegates also emphasised the need for development of a national communication policy in the conference by each member states. Mr. Alam said discussions also covered development of an international code of ethics for journalists and protection of journalists, on which further detailed study were needed. The Group of 77 has also suggested a reduced tariff structure for developing countries subscribing the news agencies of the developed countries.

Bangladesh, the Information Secretary said, had also made two specific resolutions for continuation of existing fiscal support to the Press Institution of Bangladesh and technical and fiscal assistance to the proposed Film Institute and Archives. Both the resolutions were adopted in the conference he added.

Speaking briefly, Mr. Shahidul Haq said that discussions on the Macbride Commission report was actively participated by the governmental delegates, non-government organisations and members of the Press. However, he said declaration would be in favour of a free balanced and efficient flow of information.

CSO: 4220

PRIME MINISTER GREETS TIKHONOV ON ELECTION

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 28 Oct 80 p 8

[Text] Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman on Monday expressed his belief that the existing "friendly relations" between Bangladesh and the Soviet Union would be further strengthened in the years to come, reports BSS.

In a message of greetings to Mr. Nicolai Tikhonov on the occasion of his taking office of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Shah Aziz wished him good health and continued peace and prosperity for the Soviet people.

"Excellency, please accept my warm felicitations on your assumption of the high office of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics.

"I sincerely believe that during your term of office the existing friendly relations between our two countries will be further strengthened.

"I avail of this opportunity to wish your Excellency good health, happiness and success in your new assignment and the Soviet people continued peace and prosperity.

"Please accept, excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration."

CSO: 4220

BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN MUTUAL INTERESTS DISCUSSED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] Foreign Secretaries of Bangladesh and Pakistan discussed matters of bilateral interests and reviewed international situation and regional issues in a formal talks held at the State Guest House on Saturday.

Briefing newsmen on the talks Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Mr. S A M S Kibria said that in the talks that was held in an atmosphere of "friendship, goodwill and understanding that characterise our brotherly relations" they discussed "all aspects of bilateral matters" and made their efforts to "enlarge scope of bilateral relations and deepen the contacts".

Asked whether there was any point of disagreement in the talks between the two sides the Pakistan Foreign Secretary Mr. Reaz Piracha promptly turned to his Bangladesh counterpart and enquired "do we have any disagreement?"

In reply to another question whether they could reach any agreement on the question of repatriation of stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh he said, "Since we have no dispute there was no question of agreement to be reached in this meeting."

Pressed further by newsmen whether they discussed the issue of sharing of assets and liabilities between Bangladesh and Pakistan Mr. Reaz Piracha asserted, "We have no divisive issue between the two countries". He said that he discussed all aspects of bilateral relations with his Bangladesh counterpart.

On international situation and regional issues the two Foreign Secretaries exchanged views on each other's stand on the issues. Pakistan Foreign Secretary told newsmen that his country appreciated Bangladesh's role on Afghanistan issue. "Bangladesh has played a prominent role and adopted a courageous and principal stand on Afghan issue", he praised.

He, however, observed that he did not see any early solution in sight on Afghan issue. The two Foreign Secretaries also discussed Iran-Iraq war, Middle East situation and economic problems of the developing countries. The two sides discussed the Bangladesh proposal for a summit meeting for regional cooperation.

The two Foreign Secretaries will again meet this (Sunday) morning before the Pakistan Foreign Secretary leaves for his country after a three-day visit to Bangladesh.

PRESIDENT ZIA UN DAY MESSAGE SUMMARIZED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Oct 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] President Ziaur Rahman on Friday reiterated Bangladesh's total support to the United Nations efforts in accomplishing the 'infinitely more challenging and complex' tasks before it, reports BSS.

"We will continue to play a positive role for the achievement of international peace security and development" he said in a message on the occasion of United Nations Day observed throughout the world on Friday.

President Zia recalled the emergence of the world body 35 years ago and said it had become truly a symbol of mutual cooperation amongst the states and peoples of various political economic and social systems. At this crucial juncture of history the United Nations is engaged in tasks rests the future of mankind.

President Ziaur Rahman has sent the following message of greetings to the Secretary General of the United Nations, Dr Kurt Waldheim on the occasion of the United Nations Day on October 24:

On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the United Nations Charter, the Government and the people of Bangladesh extend their warmest greetings to the United Nations. On this historic occasion we renew our total commitment to the purposes and principles of the world organization. It has been and will continue to be the endeavour of Bangladesh to strive unflinchingly to uphold the high ideals of the United Nations and to serve the cause of peace freedom and justice: Total adherence to the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter is a matter of sacred commitment to us as it is enshrined in our Constitution. Ever since the admission of Bangladesh as a member of the United Nations it has been our consistent effort in concert with the fellow member states to work for the greater interest of the world community.

Today after thirty five years of its establishment the United Nations has to all practical intents and purposes been able to accomplish the objective of universality of representation. It includes now one hundred and fifty four states hailing from all parts of the globe. It has become truly a symbol of mutual cooperation amongst states and peoples of various political; economic and social systems. At this crucial juncture of history the United Nations is engaged in tasks which are infinitely more challenging and complex than ever before. On the successful accomplishment of these tasks rests the future of mankind. In the performance of these difficult tasks the people and Government of Bangladesh assure the United Nations of their total support. We will continue to play a positive role for the achievement of international peace security and development.

Bangladesh wishes the United Nations continued strength and success.

FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON UN

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 28 Oct 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] Bangladesh has announced its candidature for the presidency of the United Nations General Assembly for 1981, Prof. Shamsul Huq, Minister for Foreign Affairs said in Dacca on Monday on return from attending 35th session of the General Assembly.

Besides the Bangladesh candidate K M Kaiser Permanent Representative at the United Nations there are three other candidates: Syrian Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Abdul Halim Khaddam the Permanent Representative of Iraq and Permanent Representative of Singapore.

The Foreign Minister said that Bangladesh has been unanimously elected to the Economic and Social Council of the UN and re-elected to the UN Board of Auditors.

For Foreign Minister said he moved a 15-point proposal for global peace, developing a food security system, human rights and special rights of women and children.

The foreign Minister said the proposals of President Ziaur Rahman tabled before the eleventh special session of the United Nations were followed up by his delegations.

Endorsed

Prof Huq said that the Group of 77 had endorsed the Bangladesh proposal for the Least Developed Countries tabled by President Ziaur Rahman at the 11th special session of the United Nations. The proposal was expected to be adopted by the 35th session of the United Nations now in session.

Talking to newsmen on his return from attending the UN session, the Foreign Minister said the proposal was also expected to be presented during the global round of negotiations and the mini-summit.

The mini-summit in which Bangladesh may be a participant will be held in Geneva soon before the global round of negotiations.

President Zia's proposals had also been well-received by the industrially advanced countries. A group of them including Austria, Mexico, West Germany France and Canada had actively associated themselves with the proposals showing a softening attitude of the North to the South, which is likely to take the direction to better understanding in North-South dialogue.

The Foreign Minister said that Bangladesh had also urged the United Nations to declare 1981 as the Year of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) and hoped that the proposal would be accepted.

He noted that the most redeeming feature in the discussion on the economic issues was the acceptance of the UNCTAD recommendation of immediate action programme for the LDC. There would be closer cooperation between Bangladesh and LDCs now.

Iraq-Iran War

SSS adds: Expressing deep anguish Prof Huq said the concern caused by the escalation of the Iran-Iraq conflict overshadowed all other issues before the General Assembly. The entire session was under the deep influence of the conflict he added.

He said the Security Council, the Islamic countries and the Non-aligned states were very much involved in the efforts to bring the war to an end.

He said the Iran-Iraq war has dealt a severe blow to the Islamic world posing a threat to the political and economic balance of not only the region but also the entire world.

Unfortunately Prof Huq said, no end to the war was still in sight.

Bangladesh the Foreign Minister added, took special initiatives in concert with the Islamic group the Non-aligned states and the Security Council for cessation of the hostilities between Iran and Iraq.

The Foreign Minister said the members of the Security Council were all cooperating regardless of their political differences to bring the war to an end. In this regard he specially praised the role of both the super powers.

But, he said, maintaining total neutrality Bangladesh was continuously making an "active and constructive" contribution under the auspices of the Security Council, the Islamic Conference and the Non-aligned Movement to end the hostilities.

The non-aligned countries also formed a contact group of which Bangladesh was also a member for keeping contact with both the countries to end the war.

About Afghanistan, he said the Islamic nations had drafted a resolution for moving it in the Security Council.

CSO: 4220

FOREIGN SECRETARY INTERVIEWED ON BORDER TALKS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] Bangladesh and India have agreed to undertake positive and constructive steps for immediate implementation of the 1974 land boundary agreement.

In a Foreign Secretary level meeting in Delhi the two countries have reached an understanding for delineation of the area to be leased at Teen Bigha for the corridor to connect 'Dahagram and 'Angarpota' with the mainland of Bangladesh. A detailed procedure for concluding the lease and erection of markers along the border and the corridor were also agreed upon in the meeting.

This was disclosed by Foreign Secretary Mr. S.A.M.S. Kibria on Friday while talking to newsmen at Kurmitola International Airport on his arrival from New Delhi after attending the Foreign Secretary level meeting.

Giving detailed account of the outcome of the Delhi meeting the Foreign Secretary said that both the sides had agreed to draw up schedule of demarcation of land boundary in order to resume the work at Teen Bigha. He however, said it was agreed that the demarcation of boundary at Muhurir Char sector would be taken up simultaneously giving effect to the lease at Teen Bigha in perpetuity as enunciated in the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement.

Replying to a question the Foreign Secretary said that the steps agreed upon in the Delhi meeting would be completed expeditiously a series of meetings at different levels between the two countries would be held to implement the decisions of the meeting he said.

The Foreign Secretary termed the understanding reached in the meeting as "forward moving steps" which were essential for the progress in the implementation of the 1974 agreement. He hoped that those steps would set in motion the total implementation of the agreement.

The Foreign Secretary said that the talks held in Delhi in a cordial atmosphere and understanding was the first concrete step taken by the two governments for speedy implementation of the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement. The Delhi meeting he said resulted from the understanding of the two Foreign Ministers reached in their talks in Dacca in August which gave fresh impetus to start dialogue on the issue.

Bangladesh the Foreign Secretary said had amended her Constitution and ratified the Land Boundary Agreement immediately after the signing of the agreement in 1974.

The progress of the implementation of the 1974 agreement he observed was held up as India did not ratify the agreement due to what the Indian side said legal difficulties.

The Foreign Secretary said that he had found full awareness in the minds of the Indian officials that the non-implementation of the agreement was a source of irritations in the relations between the two neighbours. In reply to a question he said that India would certainly implement the Land Boundary Agreement of 1974.

In five rounds of talks with the Indian side the Foreign Secretary said, they had discussed the issue on the Purbasha island. He hoped that steps enunciated in the joint Press statement issued by the two Foreign Ministers after their Dacca meeting would be fulfilled to resolve the issue on the island. The two sides also discussed the regional summit meeting as proposed by Bangladesh he said.

The other members of the Bangladesh delegation which included Major General Atiqur Rahman Director General of Bangladesh Rifles returned home with the Foreign Secretary.

CSO: 4220

AWAMI LEAGUE DEMANDS RELEASE OF DETAINEES

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 19 Oct 80 pp 1, 16

[Text] Mr. Abdul Malek Ukil and Mr. Abdur Razzak President and General Secretary respectively of Bangladesh Awami League (Malek) in a joint statement greet the Muslims of the country on the occasion of the holy Eid-ul Azha and demanded release of all detenus on this occasion.

They said that when the Muslims were going to celebrate Eid-ul Azha and the Hindus celebrating Durga Puja thousands of freedom fighters, political leaders and workers had been languishing in jails for years being deprived of the enjoyments of the two festivals. They demanded release of all detenus.

In another statement the Awami League leaders expressed concern over the expulsion from the Parliament of former Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike who they said, was a strong supporter of Bangladesh liberation war and a prominent leader of the Non-aligned Movement. They urged the Sri Lanka Government to reconsider the action on Mrs. Bandarranaiké.

CSO: 4226

IMAMS TO GUIDE PEOPLE IN VILLAGES

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 5 Nov 80 p 10

[Text] Dacca, Nov. 4--Imams in Bangladesh will no longer be only leading prayers five times a day in the mosques but will also be going to lead the people in their socio-economic life as well.

Five hundred and thirty-five of them have already gone back to their respective mosques after getting training in different village-related activities which range from learning how to treat a sick cow to setting up a library in the mosque. Another 12,500 will be completing their training under the country's second five-year plan launched in July last.

It all started with the present Government's emphasis on the development of the villages which have little enjoyed the fruits of whatever progress the country has so far made.

President Ziaur Rahman has said that the real development of the country will not be possible unless the villages, where 85 percent of the 90 million population of Bangladesh live, were brought into the mainstream of developmental activities, and to achieve that purpose, the Imams were considered to be best suited in view of their close contact with the people whom they meet five times daily in the village mosques, and in big congregations on Fridays and on Eids.--IINA

CSO: 4220

PRESIDENT ADDRESS STUDENTS' PARLEY IN KHULNA

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Oct 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] Khulna, Oct 24: President Ziaur Rahman said today, "the BKSALites have taken to politics of violence once again because their policies have been rejected by the people", reports ENA.

The President who is also Chairman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) was addressing the Khulna divisional conference of the Student wing of his party here tonight.

He said "the BKSALites organised hartal on June 19 last year but they failed to inspire the people to violence".

President Zia said people now want constructive politics which aims at national development. He pointed out that many political parties have also changed their manifesto and ideology time and again which "indicates their ideology could not attract the people".

He said there are certain parties which speak of "scientific socialism" and Marxism but in the days of scientific development today many isms have been rejected by the people in different parts of the world".

He pointed that a small country like Albania has branded Russia as revisionist. They have also alleged that Russia have drifted away from the concept of Marxism and Leninism, he added.

The President said "east European countries are also trying to get away from a super-power orbit". This indicates that there is a contradiction in what he called "introvert socialism".

He said, "according to upto date scientific knowledge the universe is expanding that is the planets and the star which form the universe are moving away from each other at a fast rate. This indicates that the law of the nature is that matter does not want to remain centralised. Similarly any attempt to centralise politics will be against the law of nature. This is the most striking contradiction in the social system based on Marxist communism".

President Zia said, 'people of the developing countries have now realised this truth. So they are trying to open up instead of remaining introvert and follow a different course of social transition.'

Bangladesh as a nation President Zia said must have its own course of development based on Bangladeshi nationalism. He said politics in Bangladesh must be consistent with the hopes and aspirations of its people.

Zia said genuine politics must be progressive and productive and keeping that in view "we have prepared a comprehensive programme for the welfare of the people". He called for hard work and dedication of implement the programme.

The President said the BNP must survive as a well-organised and disciplined party having its root deep in the masses. Self-seekers will not have any place in the BNP, he added.

The President emphasised the need for strong and dedicated cadres. He urged members of the BNP student front to devote themselves to the service of the people. He advised them to mingle with the masses share their miseries and earn their respect.

CSO: 4220

BANGLADESH

FOREIGN OFFICE: NO BANGLADESH IN EASTERN INDIA

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] A spokesman of the Foreign Office reiterated on Thursday that there are no Bangladesh nationals in the eastern region of India and, therefore, "the question of anyone coming to Bangladesh from there does not obviously arise", reports BSS.

When the attention of the Foreign Office was drawn to the remark made by the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, about the so-called foreigners going to Bangladesh the spokesman said that the position of Bangladesh has been stated in unequivocal terms on several occasions in the past.

Describing the problem in eastern India as "an internal matter of India", the spokesman said, "as such, Bangladesh was not in any way concerned with it". He, however, said "We are aware of the problem."

The Governments of Bangladesh and India, the spokesman said, have their own border security forces along the border and these forces have always maintained vigilance to ensure that there were no illegal movements across the border in either direction.

It has been proposed to strengthen further "such vigilance", the spokesman said quoting the understanding reached between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries when they held a meeting in Dacca in August.

With this objective, he said, the Government of India has been requested to arrange a meeting between the Directors General of the Border Forces of the two countries.

Our Staff Correspondent adds: Leaders of different political parties criticised the government's silence over the recent statement by Indian Prime Minister that "foreigners" in Assam would be sent to Bangladesh.

General (Retd) M.A.G. Osmani, chief of the Jatiya Janata Party, in a separate statement expressed concern over the Government's silence. He demanded a clear statement of the stand of our Government on the issue.

Mr Haider Akbar Khan Rano General Secretary and Mr Rashed Khan Menon, Central Committee members of Bangladesh Workers Party, in a joint statement condemned the silence of our Government over sending back to Bangladesh of the so-called foreigners from Assam. They asked if the silence was the result of Zia-Indira talks held recently. The Workers Party leaders demanded clear statement of the Government stand in this regard.

CSO: 4220

PRESIDENT ZIA SPEAKS ON ROLE OF WOMEN

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] President Ziaur Rahman said in Dacca on Tuesday that the womenfolk of the country had to be politically awakened and organised to remove social disparities and resolve economic issues, reports BSS.

Addressing the national conference of the Bangladesh Jativatabadi Mohila Dal on Tuesday afternoon President Zia who is also Chairman of BNP and united efforts of the womenfolk should remove weaknesses that were prevailing in the economic social administrative and political spheres of national life.

He said there could be far reaching and extraordinary impact if the three crore neglected women living in the rural areas of the country could be organised and politically awakened.

The BNP chairman described the awakening of conscience among the womenfolk as a "great asset" towards playing a more vital role in the national life.

The President said if the opportunities were given, the womenfolk could discharge their responsibility like their male counterpart.

The BNP Chairman called up on the Mohila Dal to organise the womenfolk under the banner of the party and provide them leadership for participating in the nation building activities.

President Zia said the nine crore people of the country had to be politically organised and united on the basis of Bangladeshi nationalism, which has moorings in the soil of the country, for all out development of the nation.

He urged everybody to wholeheartedly participate in the countrywide canal digging programme beginning next month.

Turning to the activities Baksal and their associates the BNP Chairman said these parties have again resorted to politics of violence in the absence of a constructive political programme. President Zia said they have again fallen victims to internecine quarrel and are carrying out this orders of their foreign masters, like the Pakistan occupation army in 1971, the Baksalites are committing the same type of mistakes, he said adding that is why they cannot succeed. Rather the more powerful we become the more we are resisted, he added.

Addressing the conference Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury called upon the members of the Mohila Dal to actively participate in the implementation of the peaceful revolution launched by President Ziaur Rahman.

Attended by Vice-President Justice Abdus Sattar, Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman and some Cabinet Ministers the conference was also addressed by Mrs Amma Rahman and Mrs Sarwari Rahman president and general secretary respectively of the Mohila Dal.

CSO: 4220

EDITORIAL DISCUSSES PLANS FOR 1981 CENSUS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 31 Oct 80 p 5

[Editorial: "Census '81"]

[Text] Bangladesh is going to have its second population census next March. The decision for conducting the census from March 5 to March 7 of 1981 was taken at a meeting of the Council of Ministers with the President in the chair on Wednesday. Necessary preparations for the work are being finalised. It is believed that the machinery for this gigantic task has been evolved and set to make the programme a success, and derive the results and benefits which are expected of the population census of a country.

It is customary with every country to have, in the first year of each decade, a full counting of heads of its people, along with the collection of various information and data about different strata and sections of the society. It is, however, more than a ritual in the sense that the enumeration of population in a scientific method lays the foundation of various surveys and knowledge of basic facts about a country and its social, economic, cultural and political life. Population census, therefore, provides the focus on different aspects of the position and progress of a nation--a focus and projection which is essential for building or rebuilding of the society and for formulating the nation's development programmes. Correct statistics are admittedly an indispensable prerequisite for the growth of a planned economy, which we have embarked upon. But, unfortunately, our statistical base is weak. We must remove this shortcoming as quickly as possible. The basic importance of the 1981 census lies here. Its success would considerably determine the future progress of the country.

It may be noted that following the emergence of Bangladesh as an independent state in December, 1971, we had our first population census in 1974. But that was not a full-fledged one because of time and other factors. The full-dress one we are now having in March. After the cent percent counting of population in the first phase, it will pass on to the second phase of sample enumeration for the collection of detailed information on housing, economic, social and demographic characteristics--which, we would reiterate, is very vital to the whole performance of the census.

We would also emphasise the need and importance of public participation in the work of census for full gains from it. For this, we believe, authorities are taking appropriate steps. Publicity campaign should be geared up to ensure public cooperation.

CSO: 4220

REPORT ON NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL 30 OCT MEETING

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The National Economic Council on Thursday decided to appoint a high-level committee to find out ways and means for developing capability of drilling in the offshore areas for mineral resources, reports BSS.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Council held at Bangabhaban with President Ziaur Rahman in the chair. While reviewing the activities of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources the Council directed the Ministry to start work on limestones mining project at Joypurhat by December 31.

It also directed the Ministry that the physical work on Jamalganj Coal and Madhvapara Hard Rock Mining Project should begin as early as possible.

The NEC also reviewed the performance of the Ministry of Youth Development and was informed that vocational training had started in almost all the 39 centres set up in the country. About 2953 seats are available in these centres for training in different fields which include agriculture livestock, poultry farming and operation and maintenance of marine diesel engines.

The meeting was told that training in pisciculture had started in 25 fish-cum-nursery where 2400 youths are expected to receive training in six batches.

The Council was also told that evaluation of training programme for 1979-80 was in progress.

The meeting was informed that the Ministry had formulated an action plan in consultation with the Ministry of Education for participation of the Bangladesh Jatiya Jubo Sangstha in mass literacy campaign. One union in each thana would be exclusively taken up for imparting functional education under the supervision of the Sangstha. The Sangstha would also take up specific projects for canal digging and other nation-building activities.

The National Economic Council directed that the Ministry of Youth Development in consultation with the Service and Technology Division would prepare a plan for employing the youth for popularising the use of solar cooker in the country.

The Council meeting at night reviewed the performance of the Ministries of Posts Telephones and Telegraph Textiles and Industries.

The Council approved a proposal of the Ministry of Post Telephones and Telegraph to make a feasibility study for launching domestic satellite in the country through the international satellite organisation.

It directed the Ministry to improve the existing telecommunication system gearing up supervision and inspection.

The NEC also directed the Industries Ministry to fully utilise machine and man hour in all the industrial units.

CSO: 4220

PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES STRUGGLE FOR LITERACY

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman said in Dacca on Saturday that steps had been further geared up to wipe out the curse of illiteracy by providing functional education to all illiterate people by the end of 1985, reports BSS.

He said there was considerable enthusiasm among the people for removal of illiteracy from the society.

The Prime Minister was addressing a conference of the additional Deputy Commissioners (Mass literacy) held at Bangladesh National Bureau of Education and Information Statistics (BNBELS) in Dacca Saturday morning.

He said a central cell had been set up in the Prime Minister's Secretariat with a Joint Secretary (Development) Ministry of Education as Coordinator.

The Prime Minister directed all the Additional Deputy Commissioners (Mass literacy) to submit quarterly progressive report of work to the central cell which would also be transmitted to the President's Secretariat.

Nine lakh copies of primers have so far been supplied to one lakh fifty thousand mass literacy squads operating all over the country, he said.

So far three lakh ninety thousand teachers are imparting functional education to fifty eight lakh learners of whom 40 per cent are female Shah Aziz said.

Twenty thousand workers of the Village Defence Party are engaged in imparting education to one lakh fellow members.

Shah Aziz said a programme has been worked out for students (Class X and XI) in mass education as part of school curriculum beginning from next examination. As an incentive, 50 marks will be added to participant students in the S.S.C. Kamel Fazel and Alem examinations.

The Prime Minister said instruction had been issued to all non-government educational institutions to the effect that their participation in mass education work would be considered in giving government aids and grants. Performance of individual teachers in this respect will also be an important factor in assessing their overall efficiency and suitability, he added.

A Taka four crore development scheme for the first phase from February 21 to December 31, 1980 is being implemented Shah Aziz said.

Shah Aziz said inter ministerial meetings had been held for effective coordination between the thana level officers of all ministries for accelerating the pace of work. A separate directorate for mass education was being established soon.

He said in all Gram Sarkars, one member is being exclusively deputed for this work. All Circle Officers are working as Coordinators in their respective thanas.

All members of the staff of the Education Ministry have been directed to work in their respective villages for one month to promote literacy drive.

All retired government officials teachers, workers of Gram Rakhi Bahini, voluntary teachers, youths and women organisations and Imams of the mosques are being involved for the successful implementation of programme targets.

A monthly meeting of all Additional Deputy Commissioners (Mass literacy) will be held under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister to review the progress of the programme.

CSO: 4279

PRESS NOTE ON 26 MARCH OBSERVANCE PUBLISHED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 26 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The following Press Note was issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in Dacca on Saturday.

Attention of the Government has been drawn to some comments and criticism being made in some quarters about the declaration of Independence Day, March 26, as also the National Day of the country. As these comments and criticism seem to be based on some misunderstanding, Government feels it necessary to clarify the position.

March 26 is observed as Independence Day of Bangladesh. On this day, the heroic people of our country went into armed struggle for our Independence. This armed struggle culminated into victory on December 16. Like Indonesia and USA this nation achieved her independence through armed struggle. The struggle for independence for this nation started on March 26 and the Government have decided to highlight this day. Therefore, March 26, the Independence Day, has been declared also as National Day so that it remains a source of inspiration to the future generation. This decision of the Government is fully in line with international practice.

It is an international practice for every country to have a National Day. On this day greetings are exchanged between heads of states and governments. This day also offers an opportunity to project the country to the outside world.

Examples of a few countries will be relevant here. Malaysia observes August 31 her Independence Day, as the National Day. Indonesia and Sri Lanka also celebrate August 17 and April 4 their Independence Day respectively as their National Day. France observes July 14 as Bastille Day and has designated this day as her National Day.

July 4 the Independence Day of the USA, is also designated as her National Day. Similar practice is also followed by many other countries of the world.

It is unfortunate that some interested quarters are trying to misconstrue the meaning of this decision to designate March 26, the Independence Day, as National Day and create confusion in the minds of the people.

Government wants to firmly reiterate that March 26, remains our Independence Day and will remain so for all time to come. It has not been declared as National Day in substitution of its status of Independence Day of the country. In fact, the dignity of March 26, the Independence Day has been further enhanced by the decision to observe this day as also the National Day.

TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S SECURITY COUNCIL SPEECH

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Oct 80 p 4

[Text] Following is the text of the statement made by Professor Shamsul Huq Foreign Minister of Bangladesh in the Security Council debate on Iran Iraq conflict.

Mr. President, as a member of Security Council Bangladesh views this meeting of the Council to be of crucial importance. We are happy to see you preside over this meeting and we sincerely believe that as in the past the Council will profit immensely from your wise guidance. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for the welcome that you were gracious enough to extend to me.

Mr. President the war between Iran and Iraq is a matter of grave concern to Bangladesh and for that matter to all peace loving countries. This war has already continued for a month and taken a heavy toll of life and property. Enormous precious resources that could have gone to development of these countries, have been destroyed. President Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh in his appeal to Presidents of Iran and Iraq to end hostilities, stressed that this suicidal conflict between two Third World countries which were also Islamic and non-aligned was deeply hurting not only Iran and Iraq, but also Islamic world, the Third World, the Non-aligned countries and for that matter the world as a whole.

Mr. President, Bangladesh is bound with Iran and Iraq by fraternal ties rooted in a shared history, religion and culture. Our hearts bleed to find brothers killing brothers. On the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, just celebrated throughout the Islamic world, the thoughts of 90 million people of Bangladesh were with their brothers and sisters who were victims of this grim tragedy. The people of Bangladesh prayed for an immediate end to this fratricidal war and restoration of peace and harmony to these troubled lands.

Mr. President Iran-Iraq conflict is not an isolated phenomenon. On the contrary, this shows an emerging trend of widening areas of tension and conflict all located in Third World. We are, therefore, naturally both disturbed and alarmed. Unless this trend is halted immediately, besides appalling loss of life and property an inevitable repercussion would be a serious set back to the development of these countries, crippling efforts of the people in the war, we are now waging against hunger and poverty, and undermining objective of securing for our people a life of human dignity.

Mr. President, the continuing war between Iran and Iraq has also rendered the entire region highly explosive. The longer it continues, the greater is the threat not

only to the peace and security of that region but also of the world. Restoration of peace in the region through an immediate ending of this conflict is, therefore an imperative in the interest of global peace and security.

During my stay here I have been in constant touch with our President. He desires me to convey to this august council his personal anguish and concern over this continuing conflict and his earnest appeal for adoption of urgent, appropriate and effective measures for ending this war and restoring peace in the region.

Mr. President as I stressed in my statement to the plenary meeting of the 365th session of the UN General Assembly one of the pre-requisites for easing tension ending conflict and ensuring peace and security on a global basis was clearly for the member states to honour their sacred commitment to the principles of the UN Charter.

These principles are unequivocal in requiring the member-states to respect the sovereignty territorial integrity and independence of other states to refrain from acquisition of territories by force to renounce use of force in settlement of disputes and not to interfere overtly or covertly in the internal affairs of other states and to allow the people to freely choose its own political economic and social system.

Mr. President in our view these principles provide a solid framework within which the efforts of this council can be directed towards ending the hostilities between Iran and Iraq and also finding a just and honourable solution to the problem.

Mr. President Bangladesh assures the council of its fullest cooperation in performing its charter responsibility in ending the hostilities between Iran and Iraq and ensuring peace and security. In this connection we would like to point out that time is of the very essence and we must move immediately and unitedly in our efforts to end further shedding of blood and to establish lasting peace and fraternal relations between these two member states of the UN. Thank you Mr. President.

CSO: 4220

15-PARTY RALLY DEMANDS REFORM OF PRISON SYSTEM

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 28 Oct 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] A rally at the Baitul Mukarram Square organised by 15 political parties on Monday demanded basic jail reforms on the basis of internationally accepted human rights jail code peeling of the vintage jail code and jail systems in the country.

The rally arranged by the 15 parties in protest against the incident at Khulna Jail observed that the different incidents at Raishahi, Dacca, Rangpur Barisal Faridpur and Mymensingh were due to continuation of "inhuman jail system," of colonial era and "authoritarian policies of the government."

Presided over by Mr Mohammad Toaha, MP, Convenor of Ganotaptrik Front it was addressed by Messrs Nurul Huda Mirza, President, NAP (N.Z. Sirajul Hossain Khan, General Secretary, JGMU Abdul Matin, Convenor Gano Front A.S.M. Selaiman MP President KSP Mia Sadequr Rahman of UPP Khalequzzaman Bhuiya of JSD (Rebel), Mrs Amina Begum, Convenor Jatiya Dal (Amina) Maulana Abdul Matin President Labour Party, Shafiul Alam Pradhan, Convenor JGP Khandaker Ali Abbas a leader of Samyabadi Dal (Nagen), Mr Garib Nawaj, President Peoples League (Garb) Mr Azizul Islam Chairman NRPP and Mr Abdus Sobhan, General Secretary NAP (Naser) and Mr Nurul Huq Choudhury of Garotantrik Karmi Shibir.

In a resolution the meeting condemned the "planned killings of the prisoners" at Khulna Jail and expressed sympathy members of their families. It demanded of the Government to pay proper compensation to the dead and injured prisoners, it also demanded release of all Patriotic political prisoners, speedy trial or release of prisoners right of appeal to the convicts under Martial Law withdrawal of false cases on political reasons warrants.

In another resolution the rally appealed to all patriotic forces to unite against the Government. It accused the government for pursuing a policy of "surrender" on the questions of "national interests and sovereignty" to India, Soviet Union and America.

In another resolution the meeting observed that the Government instead of solving various problems facing the people were "resorting to repression". It observed that the country's problems could only be solved by "replacing the government with a people's democratic power".

Mr Mohammad Toaha MP Chairman of Samyabadi Dal (M-1), said that the Movement against the "autocratic government" and the BKSAL would continue.

Mr Nurul Huda Mirza, President of National Awami Party (N-2) said that like BKSAL the present Government was also selling out the national independence and sovereignty to foreign powers. He said that the Government remained silent when India captured Taipatty Island, kept the 25-year agreement with India in force and now going to sell gas to India. Mr Nurul Huda added that the national independence of the country was in danger.

A torchlight procession was brought out after the rally which paraded different city roads. The procession was also participated by 12 student organisations and the Dacca University Central Students Union (DUCSU).

Gano Sanskrit Parisad

ENA adds: Gano Sanskrit Parishad President and General Secretary Prof M Nurunnabi and Mr Amanullah Kabir in a statement on Monday accused the Government of "distorting and suppressing the real incidents" of Khulna jail.

They described the Khulna Jail incident as the "most heinous event of history" and said that the Government alone will be held responsible for this.

They called upon the Government to meet all the genuine demands of the prisoners of the various jails of the country.

They alleged that the prisoners in different jails were subjected to inhuman life.

Chhatra Shibir

Leaders of Bangladesh Islam Chhatra Shibir in a protest rally at Baitul Mukarram square on Monday strongly condemned the Khulna Jail incident and demanded exemplary punishment for the responsible persons and compensation for the families of the victims.

Earlier, the student organisation brought out a procession from the varsity campus and dispersed at the Baitul Mukarram square after parading different city streets.

CSO: 4220

WRITER ANALYZES SOCIAL RESEARCH IN BANGLADESH

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25, 27 Oct 80

[Article by Syed Ali Naqi: "Reflections On Social Research In Bangladesh"]

[25 Oct 80 pp 5, 6]

[Text] It is instructive to follow the development of sociological studies in Bangladesh since the inception of the Department of Sociology, Dacca University, 1957 with reference to focus and objectives. There was no major effort for any social survey even upto late sixties. Whatever sporadic studies there was, it had no empirical bias. Those were in the form of a few articles and book reviews. The early studies of this nature were in a sense obsessed with the idea that any kind of so-called empirical social survey cannot give a deep insight of our society, nor can it make a research of fundamental nature. However, an attempt was made by the senior teachers of the Department of Sociology Dacca University to make a sharp turn from the traditional shelf research in this country.

After the emergence of Bangladesh one must acknowledge that there has been a massive collection of socio-economic data, but still lacking in positive studies of social phenomena. Present sociological studies concentrates more on rural surveys which are mainly development oriented. The recent past has been marked by floating foreign aids to Bangladesh by international agencies for development cooperation in various fields with an emphasis on rural sector. But the aids are not offered without the precondition of social evaluation of development projects to be undertaken in rural areas. In the past there has never been any insistence on the part of the authorities to ascertain the rationale of a project. A new dimension has now been brought into this sphere of development. So there has been a change when the professional sociologists attention has been shifted to the study of the neglected village communities. Methods of intensive field work are being used to study socio-economic background of the village social structure. Currently engaged in village studies of this nature are different departments of social science faculties of universities of Bangladesh. ISRT, BDC, BADC, IRDP and a host of other consultant firms.

Planners and administrators are anxious to apply sociological and anthropological insights to the programme of rural development and agricultural modernization population control tribal development public health and education.

The potential users of sociological data who are invariably aid giving foreign agencies do insist on more critical and penetrating studies of the dimension or change in rural Bangladesh prior to launching the project. The objectives of socio-economic research for those agencies can be summed up in the following way.

The study normally provides fundamental basis for accepting or rejecting a project proposal for the programme and the priority with regard to implementation of a particular project to a great measure depends upon these studies.

Evaluation Problem: I have observed in my studies as project director that most of the pre-evaluation focuses on project implementation and the impact of the projects for the rural population. The work of evaluating the findings, etc. is always hampered by the fact that the period between completion of the project and the time of evaluation as a rule very short and consequently the social effects can not be deeply assessed in most of the cases. Moreover, there is a scarcity and unreliability of relevant upto date socio-economic data in the area prior to the project implementation.

A criticism levelled against any social analysis of the project reveals how great the gap between the development policy objectives formulated by the International Technical Assistance Department and the ideas prevailing within Bangladesh bureaucracy. The former concentrates on the target groups in its policy, while the latter gives an area approach for overall increasing production.

Preliminary socio-economic studies are conducted in selecting procedure of different programmes like flood control and water management, etc. This enables the projects which offers least prospects in terms of the distribution of social benefits to be dropped. Besides being asked to give information about a number of socio-economic variables, the research workers are to ascertain and probe into the attitude of the population to the projects to be implemented in future. A positive response from the people is counted as most significant in deciding to undertake a project. By short term survey conclusions are formulated tentatively by the researchers. Doubts arise as to whether the findings could be meaningfully used by the client organization and whether the research done by Universities, Institutes and local consultancy firms really provide insight into the attitude of various population strata to the project. In view of complex social relationships a questionnaire given to a random sample of the population does not seem to be the best way of obtaining valid and reliable data on the classification of peasants in rural Bangladesh. The class structure of the rural population in Bangladesh is very much complicated. There is no clear cut division of peasants and sharecroppers. The social classification of them is found to be overlapping. This naturally leads to the question of how to develop the research methodology for discovering the rural social hierarchy.

In most of the reports submitted to the different governmental agencies are given guidelines for future development work in reaching the benefit to the target group in rural areas. In practice, however, it emerges that there has been very little response from the authority to improve the situation of the deprived class. It has least changed their condition. The present day social surveys in Bangladesh fail to provide any understanting between people and government and between government and international agencies. The governmental organizations are of course increasingly imbued with the spirit of development. But they fail to communicate with research workers who are supposed to play a vital role in determining the government policy as a whole.

In accepting a research assignment given by the client organization the researchers play a role in legitimizing policy even this has a damaging effect in some cases, while in others perhaps this is not being done because a research worker operates in a certain social context unique to Bangladesh and this has a far reaching effect on his field work.

Sometimes the government officers and engineers who are not specialized in social research advance argument that foreign agencies are for nothing approaching sociologists and social economists to conduct social surveys prior to the implementation of the projects financed by them when they themselves are competent to make a better social analysis of development programme which implies reducing social inequality, land and education reforms, health care tax legislation cooperatives, etc. In this way the area of the sociologists and social economists is being frequently encroached upon by non-specialists. The question still remains unsolved as to whether the researchers do faithfully conduct their business or they are inspired by pure commercial motive.

Research Areas: There can be no question of conclusive research of rural society of Bangladesh in the present socio-economic context. Rather it is a matter of pointing the social survey in a certain direction. Much will depend on local experiences and the quality and attitude of the research workers who must not have a vague idea about the objectives of research.

An evaluation exercise must combine (a) objective of goals with (b) indicators which propose to measure the movement from a given "present" or "before-project" situation to a "future" or "after project" situation.

Timing of Evaluation Surveys: These should be periodic, preferably one to be taken each year of the Project implementation and for two years after the project is terminated. The first of these surveys should be taken within the first six months of implementation of the project. In this way any momentum generated by the project can be identified.

Research Items

In rural surveys the distribution of agricultural land is invariably the crucial variable when distribution of benefit of rural development is measured. It is therefore of the utmost importance that some understanding of this be obtained clearly in order to be able to evaluate and select projects. A great imbalance in landholding of different socio-economic groups in the future study areas demands investigation into landownership structure along with other related variables which have ultimate impact on distribution of opportunity among the various socio-economic groups of villages. For the season known or unknown it is extremely difficult to get a correct picture of land tenure system in Bangladesh villages. While land distribution factor is extremely important, it is also very difficult to ascertain. The knowledge about the fragmentation of land resultant of distress sale and inheritance can hardly be obtained. No upto date file at the land revenue office is maintained in this respect. It requires much time and skill for field work to identify upto date fragmentation boundaries.

Apart from obtaining outdated or incomplete data, the revenue files give an extremely distorted picture of landownership situation in rural Bangladesh. For apprehension of loosing land if beyond 33 acres the owners on the files often do not correspond in reality to those who actually control the land. Big land owners will not in any case admit what they actually own, even the small farmer who distrust the research workers will give evasive answers. It seems to be almost impossible to get any picture of landless people from the revenue files. Making use of local peoples' knowledge information about the big landlords and landless people can be more or less obtained by means of interviews in which they are asked for their opinion. Let us

now make a few points about landlessness. According to a recent study, between 50-60% of rural heads of household in Bangladesh are landless. The percentage of landless reported in a given area is heavily dependent on survey methodology. The researchers are not unanimous on the operational definition of landlessness. An accurate census of households must be taken which includes the "hard to locate" poor and definition must be standardized. There are, in fact degrees of landlessness. It can mean the lack of agricultural land, but it may also mean a virtual proletariat who is even without a small piece of land on which to build a house. These people mostly live in the open skies and are accustomed to nomadic life. Interviews conducted with a random sample of registered householders therefore ignore the group of those without homes and this may be of considerable magnitude particularly in the poorest areas. As a result there may be serious distortion in the picture of the landownership structure. The studies so far conducted on this basis give a distorted picture of land tenure system in rural areas. When the projects come for evaluation the researchers by participant observation may be able to get some picture of these types of unstable landless poor. In other words, they are to stay for weeks in the area to discover them. However, the accent should also be given on marginal and small farmers who together constitute the majority of the rural population.

[27 Oct 80 pp 5, 6]

For various reasons like illness, chronic deficit budget, heavy expenses in social functions such as wedding and funerals, investment in agricultural input, loans are taken from both credit institution and non-institutional sources like village mahajans. Any study of credit system up till now did not systematically focus on the following aspects: the scale on which the loans given, categories of people advancing loan and those making use of them, how the loans were used, the time at which the loans are entered into, the period contracted for whether money loans or commodity loans, the amount involved, rate of interest, how those are redeemed whether those relate to consumption or production, the reputation of the mahajans etc.

Casual Labour: Farmers employ casual labour chiefly during harvesting and planting season which means that wages for casual labour reach the peak during these periods. There has been hardly any study on labour movement in Bangladesh, for lack of which the degree of increasing labour supply as a result of floating labourers cannot be ascertained. Increase or reduction in daily wages are not predictable. Job opportunities not directly connected with any project implementation also ought to be studied and listed taking account for example of the proximity of a larger town which holds out the prospect of additional work either in factories or in workshops.

Agricultural Pattern: The expected cost benefit ratio of a proposed project is calculated after a careful study of agricultural yields. The socio-economic study can perform a complementary function.

A survey should take up the following points for research. --the products that are cultivated--quantities of each product that are harvested--the acreage per product--differences in yields--store houses and marketing--poultry and livestock--fishy culture--credit institution--size and distribution of population--the qualitative distribution of the plots--irrigation and farming blocks--the categories of farmers cultivating different products--the system of food for work--the problems with which farmers have to cope with--nature of distribution of fertilizers and insecticide.

Research materials from thana agriculture office can also be used to supplement and check the above information. But these data should be taken with utmost care and caution since these may not be always valid and reliable.

Socio-economic indicator: The socio-economic indicators are very vital for a rural survey. Any indicators measured must be tested for validity and reliability. Validity refers to the certainty that the indicators actually measures what it is supposed to, for example, that gross income from crops sold is a good measure for gross family income. Reliability refers to the certainty that these answers are a fairly accurate reflection of farm condition in the area (related to that indicator). The variability of social factors in different regions of Bangladesh should also be taken into account. Some of the important indicators of the socio-economic situation in an area can be identified as follows:

A. Wages: --the level of daily wages--fluctuation in daily wages--employer of casual labour--dependent on casual labour as a main source of income--the way in which the wage are paid--the period for which the agreements between employer and employee are concluded--the nature of the work that is done by casual labourer.

B. Education: --number of persons who can read and write--number of persons who can read upto Class I-V--number of persons who can read upto Class V-X--number of persons who can read above Class X--number of educational institutions--number of teachers--number of trained persons in (Non-agricultural) craft skill.

C. Income Sources and Amounts (TK): --agricultural income--non-agricultural income.

D. Capital Owned valued (TK): --agricultural implements--non-agricultural and household tools, live stock-poultry--building other establishments.

E. Land Owned: --cultivated (own) land--sharecropped land--land recently acquired --land recently lost--river 'shikasti'--waste land--abandoned land.

F. Standard of Living: --'conspicuous consumption' level--comfort level--subsistence level--below subsistence level.

G. Credit Status: --credit status of farmers--credit status of non-farmers.

H. Institution: --number of pump groups and primary cooperatives organized--number of people in training programme at TTDC for year--number of people involved in rural works programme--food for works programme--mosque, temple, church, schools, public libraries.

Need for evaluation of village political institutions: Since the decision making of rural development is primarily done by civil servants who give a broad outline of development, it is therefore important for project initiators to study political and administrative machinery and to gain an impression of how it functions. There is a considerable evidence that efforts of donors and government programmes to increase income and autonomy of small farmers may actually strengthen the existing village social structure. Bangladesh villages are organized internally by factions with clear lines of patron client relationships. In many carefully documented cases, govt. resources, if they reach the village level are misappropriated by a faction leader and used to maintain his position within the village. There are strong social links between the economic, political and administrative elites as emerge in the way

they promote each other's interests at the expense of weaker groups. So it is imperative on the part of a social scientist to take note of these vital points while planning a socio-economic survey in Bangladesh. Specific points for investigation of rural political institution of Union Parishad are delineated below: --composition of Union Parishad--chairman of Parishad and his 'reputation'--what is his age, education and marital status--has he been re-elected--how many hours he spends in the village itself--what does agricultural extension work achieve at village level--is there any IRDP or BADC, BWDB--how does they function--what does the population think of those bodies--total number of 'Mukti Bahini' in each union--is there any inter-departmental rivalry of these organizations--number of primary school teachers (govt. servants)--is there effective coordination between IRDP & BADC and other rural based organization in following up the ultimate objectives of assistance to those without land.

Importance of Demographic Data: To complete the picture of the project area, demographic data can be collected, such as population figures divided village-wise, male-female ratio, age group of the population and other vital statistics of the project area.

Initial Study: Existing inequality in villages in Bangladesh are determining factors for the socio-economic pattern in rural areas and some insight into this is required for understanding social relationship of our agrarian society. The impact of such relationship on rural development could hardly be minimized and one is to make a survey of class relationship before selection and evaluation of projects. Quantitative research with the aid of questionnaire may not give an adequate picture of the present day class-based Bangladesh rural society. For it produces a misleading picture. Moreover, the distrust grown by the frequent visit of the field workers acting on behalf of various international agencies will I think, make the data difficult to obtain or even if obtained may give a distorted picture of social situation. The other delicate areas of research could hardly be negotiated with by the questionnaire schedule. It is simply impossible to collect information by administering questionnaire on bribery, embezzlement and other variants of financial fiddlings and chronic maladies. Obtaining data on debts will also be extremely difficult since most of the figures of loans advanced by non-institutional sources like mahajans are not kept in record. Efforts must therefore be concentrated not so much on tick-mark data as on gathering new insight into rural society by making a few case studies with the help of a combination of methods. So it goes without saying such studies certainly demand maturity, social insight and strong common sense.

Information may be gathered into two phases: In the first stage researchers could stay for at least two months in the area to observe and conduct interviews with members of various classes in the rural areas to know their attitude. So it requires indepth long term association of field workers with villagers. In the process of discovering what they think the emphasis should be given on those without land, marginal and small farmers who form the majority of population. This is being planned to give some preliminary information about rural families and farmers in the project area. At this stage the research workers should not by their participation be identified with power elites. In other words, it means that during their stay they should be least accompanied by village leaders and touts. Nor should they stay as guests with them. This produces the risk of any adverse effect on interviews. The interview should be conducted in a homely atmosphere by dispelling fear and distrust as much as possible. The researchers must bear in mind that the main

objectives of the social investigation are meant for the improvement of conditions of the poor and they are supposed to correctly assess the extent of deprivation and misery they are experiencing.

The second and final stage is to be devoted for conducting a sample survey the result of which may be complementary to the data collected in the first phase. At this stage an agricultural socio-economic questionnaire be prepared and interview taken on the basis of schedule to collect core data. Care should be taken against biasing the response which has been called 'the acquiescence effect' that is the tendency to agree to any generalization whatever. Anxiety to please the interviewer is a sufficient explanation but the respondent's motives for such a pattern need not detain them here. They can however overcome it by creating strangers' value and development of proper scale of opinion measurement. In the end of the second stage, they can, however hold interviews with the big landlords and other representatives of local elites and government bodies. Since land is wealth and source of power in villages, the researchers should conduct exclusive interview (unstructured) with at least a couple of big farmers to know what they think about the project. Data should also be collected from both govt. and non-govt. documentary sources with the end in view that a sensible comparison may be drawn between different project areas.

Conclusion

To conduct a social survey as demanded by the client foreign agencies, the terms of reference must be thrashed out and a consensus be reached with their experts in the field as regards the methods of conducting the researches. There is a misgiving that local sociologists mostly university teachers hurriedly start administering the questionnaire for quantitative data and have little time to spare for staying in the villages to get insight of rural communities although they are quite competent to go deep into the qualitative studies, if necessary. In such a case the govt. and university authorities should be approached to lend the services of research minded university teachers of social science faculty for at least two months to act as participant observer in far-flung villages which will be extremely useful for the evaluation purpose. This, however cannot be done during long university vacation which invariably falls in May through July which are difficult monsoon months.

It might be a good idea if research assignments are given to reputed academic institutions. The research bodies very often have to face unworthy criticism and have to undergo other embargo. Consequently such cold shouldering dampens greatly the spirit of a research worker. It is, therefore, advisable to work jointly with foreign consultants to dispel doubts and neutralize adverse feelings.

CSO: 4220

STUDENT, OTHER LEADERS SCORE KHULNA INCIDENT

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Oct 80 p 8

[Text] Various political labour and student and other organisations have criticised the recent unhappy incidents in Khulna and Mymensingh jails in which several prisoners were killed and injured. They demanded judicial probe into the incidents and punishment for these responsible.

These organisations also urged the government to take necessary measures to improve the living conditions in country's jails and expedite trial, of pending cases.

In this connection statements were issued by the Committee for Civil Liberties and Legal Aid Bangladesh Workers' Party Sramik Krishak Samajbadi Dal Bangladesher Samyabadi Dal (Marxists-Leninists), Bangladesh People's League Democratic League Bangladesh Rickshawchhalak Federation Bangladesh Lekhak Shibir Bangla Chhatra Union Samajbadi Chhatra Jote and Bangladesh Islami Chhatra Shibir.

Jatiya Gonotantrik Party will hold an emergency meeting of the national convening committee at 10 a.m. today (Saturday) to discuss jail incidents.

Sramik Krishak Samajbadi Dal will also hold a workers meeting at 4 pm at its central office to discuss its next programmes in connection with the jail incidents.

JSD Rally

The Dacca City Unit of the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal on Friday held a rally at Baitul Mukarram square and brought out a procession in protest against the Khulna jail incident.

Presided over by Mr Shamsuzzaman Mintu, the meeting was addressed by City JSD General Secretary Mr. Khatequzzaman Choudhury and Mr. Nur-e-Alam Ziku, organising Secretary of the party.

Mr. Nur-e-Alam Ziku held the government responsible for the incident at Khulna Jail. He also criticised the government for failing to fulfil its commitment to reform the existing jail code and publish jail report of the Jail Commission.

The JSD leader called upon the people to build up an united movement for what he said to remove the government. He said that his party was holding talks with other political parties in this regard and a programme for an united movement would be announced soon.

After the meeting a procession was brought out which paraded different city thoroughfares and terminated at the Central Shabid Minar.

PAKISTAN FOREIGN SECRETARY ARRIVES IN DACCA

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Oct 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Mr Reaz Piracha arrived in Dacca on Friday on a three-day "goodwill mission and for friendly consultations".

Mr Piracha told newsmen at the Kurmitola International Airport that there was no "fixed agenda for talks" but he expected to have free and frank discussions with his Bangladeshi counterpart on bilateral matters and issues of common concern.

The Pakistani Foreign Secretary said that he would discuss "all issues" that his Bangladeshi counterpart wished to discuss when a correspondent asked him if the question of repatriation of Pakistanis in Bangladesh and settlement of assets and liabilities between the two countries would come up for discussion he said all matters would be discussed.

He said that among other things he hoped to discuss the Afghan situation with Bangladesh Foreign Secretary and described the situation in Afghanistan as "very serious" and a matter of "grave concern to us as it is our next door neighbour". He expressed grave concern at the current Iran-Iraq fratricidal war which was not only causing untold sufferings and great damage, but was also fraught with "much danger".

Mr. Piracha noted that Bangladesh had been in the forefront of efforts for a peaceful end to the Iran-Iraq conflict and the very many appeals made by Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman in this respect.

Mr Piracha was received by Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Mr S.A.M.S. Kibria.

Mr Piracha did not agree with a questioner that the peace mission of Pakistan President Ziaul Haq had failed and said the efforts for a solution to their conflict was still continuing.

He said it would not be correct to say that the Secretary General of Islamic Conference Mr Habib Chetty had started his peace mission in the wake of failure of the efforts of President Ziaul Haq.

Rather, he said, Mr Chetty started his mission from Pakistan after consultation with President Ziaul Haq who is also the current chairman of Islamic Conference.

He said that Mr Chatty, as the chief executive of the QIC was working on behalf of President Ziaul Haq.

Mr Piracha said that Mr Chatty went to Iran and Iraq with the proposal that a large group of heads of Muslim States might visit the two capitals to restore peace between them. He described the efforts as 'a continuing process.'

The two foreign secretaries will start their formal talks tomorrow morning, which is scheduled to be held in three session till Sunday morning.

As the two foreign secretaries drove to the city a large number of stranded Pakistanis demonstrated outside the airport demanding immediate repatriation to Pakistan.

The demonstrators who included men women and children, were carrying placards and banners demanding that arrangements must be made during the talks for their immediate return to Pakistan.

Some of the placards were also inscribed with the slogan that the stranded Pakistanis welcome the Pakistan delegation led by Mr Piracha.

CSO: 4220

GOVERNMENT ACTION ON RIVER EROSION DEMANDED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 19 Oct 80 p 3

[Text] Bangladesh River Erosion Resistance Committee demanded of the Government to declare the 'river erosion problem' as a national problem and take up a comprehensive programme to check it reports ENA.

Addressing a press conference in Dacca the committee Chairman Mohammad Habibullah put forward a three-point demand urging the Government for immediate solution of the problem.

The demands include rehabilitation of the erosion victims and immediate survey on the damage caused by river erosion. The committee also urged the Government to introduce a bill seeking immediate remedies of the problem in the forthcoming session of the Jatiyo Sangsad.

Mr. Habibullah gave a detail picture of the river erosion and damages caused by the erosion throughout the country. He said about 35 thousand people fall victim to the river erosion every year.

He said most of the victims have turned in to landless peasants and day-labourers. He added that about 60 per cent of landless peasants and day-labourers are the victims of river erosion.

He urged the Government to take adequate measures for distribution of char lands among the erosion-victims after proper survey and inquiry.

CSO: 5000

OPEC TO PROVIDE LOAN FOR GAS PROJECT

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) would provide a 21 million dollar interest free loan to Bangladesh for the Bakhrabad-Chittagong gas project it was officially stated in Dacca on Thursday, reports BSS.

An agreement to this effect was signed on October 24 in Vienna, Austria, between Bangladesh Government and OPEC Fund for international development authorities. Mr A.K.H. Morshed, Bangladesh Ambassador in Federal Republic of Germany and Dr. Mah-soun Jalal, Chairman of the governing body of the Fund signed the agreement on behalf of their respective sides.

According to an official source Bakhrabad-Chittagong gas project comprises a gas oil drilling programme gathering and conditioning facilities.

A transmission pipeline approximately 110 miles long from Bakhrabad to Chittagong city gate and gas distribution system to the Eastern Refinery Steel Mill area proposed Chittagong Urea Fertilizer project, WAPDA Power Station, Karnafully Paper Mill, Nasirabad and Kalughat industrial estates and domestic use in Chittagong town.

The OPEC fund began its aid operation in Bangladesh on January 11 1977 through a balance of payment support loan amounting 103.9 dollars.

Bangladesh has already received a total amount of 73.9 million dollars assistance as loan from it out of which project assistance was 53 million and commodity assistance including balance of payment support was 20.9 million.

CSO: 4220

NEED FOR EXPANDING PORT FACILITIES STRESSED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Oct 80 p 5

[Editorial: "Chalna Port"]

[Text] The need for expanding the handling capacity of our seaports is felt in all quarters. It is so in view of the increase in international trade and concomitant increase in the volume of cargoes that come and go through the sea-ports. Apparently the capacity in the major port of Chittagong is fully utilized. Some times ships are reported to be awaiting their turn to get the berth and load and offload the cargo. With expansion of trade with various countries the demand for port facilities has also increased. And the upcoming of the second sea-port at Chalna is regarded as a condition-precedent for trade in the country in some quarters. They have taken this view also due to the fact that the railway system connecting Chalna and Chittagong ports has two different sets of lines, which by themselves affect the efficacy of one or the other port vis-a-vis the movement of cargo to and from the port.

The reported investment of fortythree crore Taka for the Chalna Port is rather a conservative one. Because with increasing cost of materials and manpower the same amount of money may not give all the facilities needed in the new port. As reports go, the present capacity of the five completed jetties is around fifteen thousand tons of cargo. When other five jetties will be completed this port will be able to handle double the quantum of cargo at an average per year. This will not meet the requirements in full and facilities at Chittagong and Chalna may have to be increased in the coming years. And the projected volume of trade during the Second Five-Year Plan period gives us an idea about the dimension of additional work to be undertaken or the increase in handling capacity of our ports in future.

President Ziaur Rahman, during his visit to Khulna, stopped over Mongla, the port area to see for himself the progress made in the construction of facilities. His presence there as well as his urgings for completion of the work by 1982, go to prove the sense of urgency felt and priority given by the government to this important sector. The same priority has to be translated into reality irrespective of the cost. In this connection, it may be noted that a port is by itself a city and as the President said, Chalna Port should come up as a nice spot in the country. His direction for creating a city development authority for the port area should be followed up by the planning and financial authorities in the country.

Incidentally, the port facilities in a country like Bangladesh have to be linked with the transportation network in the country. The railways and the inland

waterways as well as the road network have to be upgraded if desirable level of handling at the port areas is to be achieved. The storage facilities including silos and tankers for bulk cargoes go with expansion and installation of jetties. These aspects of the work demand meticulous exercise in terms of availability of raw materials, storing and handling thereof as well as the timely utilization of all these materials. These aspects of management have often been tackled in a way as does not reflect professionalism and modernity. It is hoped that while building the rest of the port facilities and the city around, these aspects of management will be taken care of properly for giving the economy the ultimate benefits.

CSO: 4220

GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS NEWSPRINT PRICE DEMAND

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Newspaper Industry Joint Action Committee called off the proposed Black Day programme on October 27 in view of the acceptance of their demands by the Government following talks during the last few days reports BSS.

According to an agreement signed between the Information Minister Mr. Shamsul Huda Chowdhury and the leaders of the Action Committee the Government agreed to reduce the price of newsprint by Taka one thousand per ton, withdraw stoppage of advertisement for political reasons take a policy of equitable distribution of the advertisement and increase the rate of advertisement by 15 per cent.

The reduction of the price of newsprint will come into effect from October 1 and increase of the rate of advertisement and equitable distribution of advertisement will be enforced immediately.

The leaders of Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad and the Newspaper Industry Joint Action Committee expressed gratitude to all those who lent spontaneous support to their programme. They said that the realisation of our demands have been possible due to the active role of the people.

They also thanked the various political parties, students and other organisations once again for their support.

The agreement was signed by the Information Minister Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury on behalf of the Government and Mr Ahmed Humayun, President Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists Mr Reazuddin Ahmed Secretary General BFUJ Mr Habibul Bashir General Secretary Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad Mr M A Karim President Sangbadpatra Press Bramik Federation Mu Fazle Imam Secretary General SPSF Mr Jahangir Kabir President Sangbadpatra Karmachari Federation and Mr Mozammel Hossain Secretary of SPKT.

CSO: 4220

EARNINGS OF BANGLADESHIS ABROAD REPORTED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 Oct 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] Bangladeshis working abroad remitted Taka 222.05 crore from January to June, 1980. The remittances by the white collar Bangladeshi wage earners were less than the semi-skilled and unskilled workers.

This was disclosed by Mr. A.K. Gangopadhaya, Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank at a seminar on remittances by Bangladeshi wage earners and its utilisation", held under the auspices of Dacca Chamber of Commerce and Industry at its office premises on Thursday.

Mr. Nuruddin Ahmed, President of DCCI presided over the seminar while it was participated, among others, by Mr. Aminul Islam, Managing Director of Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB).

Mr. A.K. Gangopadhaya said that most of the funds of the wage earners are used to finance the import of raw materials. He said that the amount of remittances by the wage earners would rise to Taka 400 crore at the end of the current financial year (1980-'81).

He said that for the import of luxury goods only a small amount of the wage earners fund is spent. Mr. Aminul Islam in his paper on 'optimum utilisation of remittances' said that most of the remittances are spent on real estate and consumer goods. Local production has failed to meet the increased demand, he said, suggesting channelisation of the remittances into productive sectors, to help control inflation and increase economic activities. He proposed setting up of branches and representative offices in London and other important cities of the Middle East countries.

Mr. Nuruddin Ahmed said that Bangladesh has not been able to tap the manpower potential for manpower export fully compared to India, Pakistan, Singapore and Thailand. During the year 1976-'77 India earned \$14,000 million, Pakistan \$800 million, Turkey \$500 million while Bangladesh only \$162 million that is Taka 243 crore, he pointed out. Occupational needs of the multi nationals owned by USA Canada and Western Europe have to be assessed and terms offered by the competing countries for manpower export he suggested High demand for manpower will grow in those big multinationals, he said.

The recommendations made at the seminar are Better banking for remittances within shortest possible time should be made available to wage earners abroad. If necessary foreign exchange dealers in the private sector may be appointed in those countries where Bangladeshis are working in large number. This would facilitate remittances to the wage earner nominees in Bangladesh.

Negotiable instrument such as foreign exchange earning voucher should be introduced in order to minimise the hardship of the wage earner nominees in getting the remittances from the local banks.

For better investment performance of the wage earner remittances government agencies here should prepare comprehensive industrial project profiles under investment schedule and pursue the wage earners abroad to invest.

Satellite township outside the Metropolitan cities may be set up and earmarked for wage earners. This would help reduce pressure on the prices of land for house building purposes.

An overseas employment development authority with field offices in important employment centres may be set up with all the necessary commercial elements in order to capture manpower markets abroad.

(80) 6270

CHITTAGONG REPORTS RECORD STEEL PRODUCTION

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25 Oct 80 p 8

[Text] Chittagong. The Chittagong Steel Mill only of its kind in Bangladesh made a profit of Taka 2.75 crore during the fiscal year 1979-80. The mill earned this profit as against the profit of Taka 2.31 crore of fiscal year 1978-79. The profit margin of the mill has obviously been going up.

The production of Chittagong Steel Mill reached all time high last year. The mill produced 1,33,315 tons of steel ingots during the year 1979-80. Of this total production a record quantity of 14,400 tons steel ingots was produced in December last year. This shows that the average production of 14,000 tons of steel can be attained per month through the operation of its three furnaces.

Disposal of slag (steel impurities) has always been a chronic problem of melting shop of the mill. With modification of technology this problem has been reduced to minimum and the quality of steel has also been improved. These changes help improve yield percentage and reduce leakage considerably. One of the reasons for all these improvement is the change of design of pitside brick works system supplied by designer of this plant. Messrs Kobe Steel Limited Japan.

In the melting shop three furnaces operated continuously for several weeks for the first time in the Chittagong Steel Mill by using one charging crane only when another crane was out of order. The whole operation was normal due to sequence planning in advance.

The other major achievements of Chittagong Steel Mills are the replacement of main water supply line of 24' dia of 800 feet length by locally manufactured 24" dia pipes and installation of new shaft.

Besides the Chittagong Steel Mill is locally producing about 30 per cent of ingot moulds (an important consumable) with an electric arc furnace of three tons capacity. This arc furnace also produces special steel for other spare parts. To increase the production of ingot moulds, one mechanical engineer Mr Nurul Islam Khan has designed and erected and put into operation one modern cupola furnace which will also increase the iron casting facilities. This will facilitate the manufacture of a considerable quantity of spare parts to replace imports. This cupola furnace is fully mechanised and one can definitely claim that this is a significant achievement on the part of the mill.

Chittagong steel mill has also started manufacture and fabrication of charging box (an important consumable) successfully. Since last year the mill has not imported any charging box. The cost of one charging box in foreign exchange is about Taka 20,000.

During the past 14 years of operation rolling of ingots in the mill continued to be a problem and every year the ingot quantity continues to be added. Many of the foreign experts including local ones expressed doubt about the plant capacity indicated by the plant supplier. But during the year 1979 the mill could reach production upto 800 tons a day.

What is more interesting is the working atmosphere developed between the management and workers union. All these have become possible due to total and whole hearted devotion and co-operation between present production oriented collective bargaining agent (workers union) and management. For the last two years the mill is really enjoying an industrial peace.

Finally it can be mentioned here that Chittagong Steel Mill is purely an import oriented industry. Ninety per cent of raw materials and spare parts are imported. It consumes about 4000 tons furnace oil per month. The Chittagong Steel Mill has trained 147 persons in different institutions of the country and 159 persons abroad.

CSO: 42/20

BRIEFS

PARLIAMENT SESSION SCHEDULED--President Ziaur Rahman on Friday summoned the Jatiya Sangsad to meet at the Parliament house on November 28 at 10 a.m. It was announced in Dacca reports BSS. The President has summoned the session of Jatiya Sangsad under Article 72 (1)k of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25 Oct 80 p 1]

DELEGATION IN JIDDA--Jeddah, Oct 25. King Khaled Bin Abdul Azi today received the Bangladesh Haj delegation led by Religious Affairs Minister, Mr Abdur Rahman. Islamic International News Agency (IINA) reported says BSS. The King also separately received Haj missions of Djibouti and Gambia. The Second Deputy Premier and Commander of the National Guard Prince Abdullah and Foreign Minister Saud al Faisal were present during the meeting. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 26 Oct 80 p 1]

ELECTION TO ITPA--Bangladesh has been elected Chairman of International Tea Promotion Association (ITPA) a nine-nation body under UNCTAD for the year 1981 at the four-day annual meeting of the association in Rotterdam according to a press release. Mr. S.R. Kadir, leader of the Bangladesh delegation and current Senior Vice-Chairman will be the Chairman of ITAP for 1981. International Tea Promotion Association is a body under UNCTAD and its Board of Governors is composed of nine tea producing countries including Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi and Mauritius. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 26 Oct 80 p 12]

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS--Mr. Mohammad Nazrul Islam No. 1 Secretary, Bangladesh Tute Mills Corporation, has been appointed Deputy Secretary, Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat according to a Press release. Syed Quazi Shamsul Huda, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Power, Water Resources & Flood Control, has been appointed Deputy Secretary, Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat. Syed Matjur Rasul, Deputy Secretary, Health Division, Ministry of Health, Population Control & Family Planning, has been appointed OSD Deputy Secretary Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat. Mr. Abdul Haq, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been appointed Deputy Secretary, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance. Mr. Humayun Shamsul Kabir Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been appointed Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Commodore (retd) M. Ataur Rahman, Chairman, Trading Corporation of Bangladesh, has been appointed Chairman, Tariff Commission. Kazi Mohammad Mosharraf Hussain, Chairman Tariff Commission has been appointed Chairman, Bangladesh Tea Board. Quazi Azhar Ali Chairman, Bangladesh Tea Board, has been appointed Chairman Trading Corporation of Bangladesh. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Oct 80 p 1]

ELECTION TO IBE--Bangladesh has been elected a member of the IBE (International Bureau of Education), an organ of the UNESCO, says an official source. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Oct 80 p 1]

DETENTION OF COMMUNIST--The detention order against the General Secretary of CPB, Mr. Mohammad Farhad had been extended by a month official source confirmed in Dacca on Wednesday, reports BSS. Mr. Farhad was arrested in Dacca on March 31 last under Special Powers Act and had been kept under detention since then party sources said adding the last detention order for six months had expired on Wednesday. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Oct 80 p 12]

MUSLIM LEADER GREETED--President Ziaur Rahman has sent the following message of greetings to Mr Habib Chatti, Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, says an official announcement. Excellency. Please accept my sincere thanks for the warm greetings which you have so kindly conveyed to me on the eve of Eid-ul-Azha. Reciprocating your brotherly gesture on this happy and sacred occasion I would like to extend to you my own fraternal felicitations. We pray and hope that the spirit of unity among the Muslims specially on the holy occasion of Eid-ul-Azha will help your noble efforts to bring peace and understanding among brothers-in-Islam. I avail myself of this opportunity to offer my very best wishes for your good health and happiness and for continued peace and prosperity of the entire Muslim Umanah. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 17 Oct 80 pp 1, 8]

DELEGATION IN DPRK--The Bangladesh Nationalist Party delegation led by Mr Nazmul Huda called on President Kim Il Sung of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea and congratulated him on the successful completion of the sixth Congress of the Worker's Party and his being re-elected as the General Secretary of the party, according to reports received in Dacca on Thursday night, reports BSS. President Kim thanked the delegation for its participation to the Congress and requested the delegation to convey his best wishes to BNP Chairman President Ziaur Rahman. Mr So Sung, Textile Minister of North Korea called on BNP delegation leader Mr Nazmul Huda, at Pyongyang and remained with him for some time. Later the Minister accompanied the delegation at a rally organised in honour of the BNP delegation which pledged solidarity and friendship with BNP and wished the Party Chairman President Ziaur Rahman's happiness and long life. Addressing the rally Mr Huda reciprocated the similar sentiment and said that the friendship between the two countries would grow stronger and stronger every day. Earlier, on their arrival at Pyongyang the BNP delegation has an hour long discussion with Mr Huang Jang Yop, Secretary of the Central Committee of Worker's Party and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 17 Oct 80 p 8]

STUDENTS UNION ELECTIONS--Elections to the Dacca University Central Students' Union (DUCSU) and half student unions will now be held on November 17, instead of the date announced earlier, according to an announcement made on Saturday. Nomination papers will be received up to 2 p.m. on November 5. It may be recalled that previously the DUCSU election date was set for November 8. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 19 Oct 80 p 16]

ENEMY PROPERTY ACT--An extended meeting of Bangladesh Enemy (Vested) Property Ordinance Resistance Committee was held in Dacca recently, a Press release of the committee said on Thursday, reports BSS. The meeting demanded of the government to immediately repeal the Enemy (Vested) Property Act. A seventy-one member Preparatory Committee with Barrister Shawkat Ali Khan as Convener was also formed to hold its national conference on November 22 and 23 the Press release said. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Oct 80 p 12]

INDIANS SEIZE BOATS--New Delhi, Oct 26: Fifty boats belonging to Bangladesh were seized by Indian Border Security Forces (BSF) near Balat in the east khasia district on Meghalaya Bangladesh border on October 15 last, PTI reported, says AFP. Quoting official sources at Shilong, capital of Meghalaya, the agency said that 300 boats carrying about 1,000 Bangladesh nationals had crossed into the Indian side there for allegedly collecting limestone. The intruders later fled leaving 50 boats when BSF personnel challenged them PTI said. No casualties were reported. According to PTI, a note of protest had been sent, apparently by BSF authorities to the Bangladesh Rifles. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Oct 80 p 1]

GREETINGS TO KAUNDA--President Ziaur Rahman has sent the following message of greetings to Dr K D Kaunda, President of the Republic of Zambia, on the occasion of the National Day of his country, says an official announcement. On behalf of the Government and the people of Bangladesh and on my own behalf I extend to Your Excellency our warmest greetings and felicitations on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Zambia. Allow me, Excellency, to express my earnest hope that the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will further be expanded and strengthened in the years to come. I take this opportunity to convey our best wishes for Your Excellency's personal health and happiness and for the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Zambia. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Oct 80 p 1]

TEAM TO EEC--A seven-member Bangladesh businessmen delegation will leave Dacca today (Saturday) for EEC countries according to an official sources on Friday reports BSS. Led by Mr A.K.K. Ziauddin, MP, and a former President of Khulna Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The delegation will visit West Germany, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, France and United Kingdom. The members of the delegation during their visit will meet the representatives of chambers and commerce and industries of those countries and hold talks for further exploration of Bangladesh exportables to those countries, the source said. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Oct 80 p 8]

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THE invasion last week of the
 hills by the Assam foresters
 was not the same as a surprise
 to those who were waiting for the proceedings
 from their range. Many through the
 surprise was made of the All-Assam
 Ganga Sangram Parishad had claimed that
 their demands were about to be accepted.
 But now were seen bound to be wrong.
 In spite of claims that the talks have
 narrowed the differences between the
 Government and the Assam Indian view-
 point it is obvious that the real causes
 of the growing upsurge of ethnic agitation
 in Assam remain to be tackled.

The Assamese are a fascinating,
 sophisticated people. In the region sitting
 on the Brahmaputra Valley, the pace of
 living has changed with the people are
 more attached to their pastoral circum-
 stances and do not eagerly reject the
 idea of living away for an extended day
 among their home state. Perhaps because
 of their home waters they have a strong
 sense of self-preservation.

The successive waves of agitation in
 Assam stem from the fear that the language,
 culture and distinctive identity of the
 Assamese would be in danger unless the
 State Government the State is stopped
 and even those who have made it their
 home will not last for a three decades
 or more. And whether one agrees

or not with this line of reasoning, the
 existence of the fear is undeniable. It is
 difficult to examine the Assamese mind
 of this fear which is largely psychological.

Tripura Example

The example of Tripura where dis-
 placed persons from Bangladesh outnumber
 the so-called indigenous people is used
 often to drive the fear deep into the Assamese
 mind. "Assam's Struggle for Survival"
 a publication widely distributed by the
 All-Assam Students Union (AASU) and
 AAGSP sums up the fear in these words.
 "Assam today is face to face with the
 twin problems of its conversion into a
 prospective greater West Bengal or a colony
 of West Bengal and a prospective greater
 Bangladesh or for that matter a colony
 of Bangladesh."

The migration of people into Assam
 from what is now Bangladesh started
 towards the end of the 19th century.
 Poverty coupled with the lure of easily
 available fertile land in the thinly populated
 Brahmaputra Valley drew people from East
 Bengal (previous) from Myanmar. The
 largest district in present-day India is
 Assam. First they came in a trickle which
 later grew into a flood. The Superintendent
 of Census Operations in 1911 observed
 that in three more decades the only district
 where the Assamese might find themselves
 at home could be Bangladesh.

Unchecked Influx

The influx continued all the same, and until Independence the Assam Government by and large encouraged immigrants from East Bengal to come as though hands were not locally available to plough the vast fallow tracts. The Assamese landed gentry generally welcomed them as they were skilled in farming and were willing to sell their labour for a pittance. Sir Syed Muhammad Saadulla, who was Premier of Assam for several years, concurred at the immigration for his own reasons.

After partition came a new breed of people, Hindu displaced persons who had been uprooted from their traditional homes in East Pakistan. They involuntarily sought asylum in the neighbouring Indian States, and Assam being contiguous to East Pakistan, a large number of them came there and made it their home. The Assam Government assumed responsibility for rehabilitating a large number of displaced persons with financial assistance from the Centre. Some others came surreptitiously when a ban was clamped on free immigration to India.

All this is now part of history. In the years since Independence, Assam has grown into a mosaic of many hues. The traditional tolerance of the Assamese Hindu has until recently prevented any clash between him and the immigrant Muslim. But more than tolerance, the readiness of the Muslim immigrant to declare his mother-tongue as Assamese has made him less unacceptable to the Assamese than the Bengali Hindu.

In the struggle for existence the Bengali Muslim for a while put his love of language into the shelf and concentrated on building up his economic strength. Sometimes he also unwittingly played into the hands of chauvinists who whipped up an anti-Bengali Hindu trade. This explains why there have been few communal disturbances in Assam, though it has been rocked from time to time by racial violence. The victims in most cases were Bengali Hindus, though occasionally Marwaris, Biharis and others are affected.

Much is being said about the partisan character of the Assam administration but this is by no means the first time that such charges have been levelled against administrative and police officers of the Assam Government. A memorandum submitted on behalf of the Marwari community to a commission of inquiry which went into the disturbances at Gauhati in September 1948, which mainly hit Marwaris, gives a distressing account of such partisanship.

Hate Campaign

According to the memorandum, which was drawn up by a lawyer who later became a judge of the Gauhati High Court, even in those days slogans like 'Assam for the Assamese, not for India', 'Assam was not in India and will not be in India' were voiced freely. 'The inactivity of the Government machinery led one to believe that persons in power are not averse to the said hate campaign and it had their tacit approval', said the memorandum.

About the role of the police, the memorandum had something far worse to say. Had not the police come to the scenes of violence 'the morale of the victims would not have suffered such a setback, and perhaps the colossal loss caused by the anarchy could have been much reduced, because it was the Assam police which even obstructed the efforts on the part of the victims in certain areas to resist the tyranny of the violent mob. Instead of protecting the life, honour and property of the people, the police proved to be a greater menace to law and order itself'.

There has been a qualitative change in the Assamese fear complex. The Joanpith award winning Assamese writer, Dr. Binendra Kumar Bhattacharya, brought it out in an article in the Assam Tribune of April 16, 1950. In these words: 'Another fear expressed is regarding the rapid increase of the Muslim immigrants in the State and their proliferation due to the practice of polygamy. Can the ambition of Assam to remain a Hindu and Assamese State

be maintained in the face of the rapid increase of the Muslim population? This is the real question.'

The fear is largely well founded. It is the fear of the Assamese Hindu that the Muslim population will grow so rapidly that the Assamese Hindu will be a minority in the State. The fear is not unfounded. The Muslim population of Assam was 1,00,000 in 1941, 1,50,000 in 1951, 2,00,000 in 1961, 2,50,000 in 1971, 3,00,000 in 1981, 3,50,000 in 1991, 4,00,000 in 2001, 4,50,000 in 2011, 5,00,000 in 2021, 5,50,000 in 2031, 6,00,000 in 2041, 6,50,000 in 2051, 7,00,000 in 2061, 7,50,000 in 2071, 8,00,000 in 2081, 8,50,000 in 2091, 9,00,000 in 2101, 9,50,000 in 2111, 10,00,000 in 2121, 10,50,000 in 2131, 11,00,000 in 2141, 11,50,000 in 2151, 12,00,000 in 2161, 12,50,000 in 2171, 13,00,000 in 2181, 13,50,000 in 2191, 14,00,000 in 2201, 14,50,000 in 2211, 15,00,000 in 2221, 15,50,000 in 2231, 16,00,000 in 2241, 16,50,000 in 2251, 17,00,000 in 2261, 17,50,000 in 2271, 18,00,000 in 2281, 18,50,000 in 2291, 19,00,000 in 2301, 19,50,000 in 2311, 20,00,000 in 2321, 20,50,000 in 2331, 21,00,000 in 2341, 21,50,000 in 2351, 22,00,000 in 2361, 22,50,000 in 2371, 23,00,000 in 2381, 23,50,000 in 2391, 24,00,000 in 2401, 24,50,000 in 2411, 25,00,000 in 2421, 25,50,000 in 2431, 26,00,000 in 2441, 26,50,000 in 2451, 27,00,000 in 2461, 27,50,000 in 2471, 28,00,000 in 2481, 28,50,000 in 2491, 29,00,000 in 2501, 29,50,000 in 2511, 30,00,000 in 2521, 30,50,000 in 2531, 31,00,000 in 2541, 31,50,000 in 2551, 32,00,000 in 2561, 32,50,000 in 2571, 33,00,000 in 2581, 33,50,000 in 2591, 34,00,000 in 2601, 34,50,000 in 2611, 35,00,000 in 2621, 35,50,000 in 2631, 36,00,000 in 2641, 36,50,000 in 2651, 37,00,000 in 2661, 37,50,000 in 2671, 38,00,000 in 2681, 38,50,000 in 2691, 39,00,000 in 2701, 39,50,000 in 2711, 40,00,000 in 2721, 40,50,000 in 2731, 41,00,000 in 2741, 41,50,000 in 2751, 42,00,000 in 2761, 42,50,000 in 2771, 43,00,000 in 2781, 43,50,000 in 2791, 44,00,000 in 2801, 44,50,000 in 2811, 45,00,000 in 2821, 45,50,000 in 2831, 46,00,000 in 2841, 46,50,000 in 2851, 47,00,000 in 2861, 47,50,000 in 2871, 48,00,000 in 2881, 48,50,000 in 2891, 49,00,000 in 2901, 49,50,000 in 2911, 50,00,000 in 2921, 50,50,000 in 2931, 51,00,000 in 2941, 51,50,000 in 2951, 52,00,000 in 2961, 52,50,000 in 2971, 53,00,000 in 2981, 53,50,000 in 2991, 54,00,000 in 3001, 54,50,000 in 3011, 55,00,000 in 3021, 55,50,000 in 3031, 56,00,000 in 3041, 56,50,000 in 3051, 57,00,000 in 3061, 57,50,000 in 3071, 58,00,000 in 3081, 58,50,000 in 3091, 59,00,000 in 3101, 59,50,000 in 3111, 60,00,000 in 3121, 60,50,000 in 3131, 61,00,000 in 3141, 61,50,000 in 3151, 62,00,000 in 3161, 62,50,000 in 3171, 63,00,000 in 3181, 63,50,000 in 3191, 64,00,000 in 3201, 64,50,000 in 3211, 65,00,000 in 3221, 65,50,000 in 3231, 66,00,000 in 3241, 66,50,000 in 3251, 67,00,000 in 3261, 67,50,000 in 3271, 68,00,000 in 3281, 68,50,000 in 3291, 69,00,000 in 3301, 69,50,000 in 3311, 70,00,000 in 3321, 70,50,000 in 3331, 71,00,000 in 3341, 71,50,000 in 3351, 72,00,000 in 3361, 72,50,000 in 3371, 73,00,000 in 3381, 73,50,000 in 3391, 74,00,000 in 3401, 74,50,000 in 3411, 75,00,000 in 3421, 75,50,000 in 3431, 76,00,000 in 3441, 76,50,000 in 3451, 77,00,000 in 3461, 77,50,000 in 3471, 78,00,000 in 3481, 78,50,000 in 3491, 79,00,000 in 3501, 79,50,000 in 3511, 80,00,000 in 3521, 80,50,000 in 3531, 81,00,000 in 3541, 81,50,000 in 3551, 82,00,000 in 3561, 82,50,000 in 3571, 83,00,000 in 3581, 83,50,000 in 3591, 84,00,000 in 3601, 84,50,000 in 3611, 85,00,000 in 3621, 85,50,000 in 3631, 86,00,000 in 3641, 86,50,000 in 3651, 87,00,000 in 3661, 87,50,000 in 3671, 88,00,000 in 3681, 88,50,000 in 3691, 89,00,000 in 3701, 89,50,000 in 3711, 90,00,000 in 3721, 90,50,000 in 3731, 91,00,000 in 3741, 91,50,000 in 3751, 92,00,000 in 3761, 92,50,000 in 3771, 93,00,000 in 3781, 93,50,000 in 3791, 94,00,000 in 3801, 94,50,000 in 3811, 95,00,000 in 3821, 95,50,000 in 3831, 96,00,000 in 3841, 96,50,000 in 3851, 97,00,000 in 3861, 97,50,000 in 3871, 98,00,000 in 3881, 98,50,000 in 3891, 99,00,000 in 3901, 99,50,000 in 3911, 100,00,000 in 3921, 100,50,000 in 3931, 101,00,000 in 3941, 101,50,000 in 3951, 102,00,000 in 3961, 102,50,000 in 3971, 103,00,000 in 3981, 103,50,000 in 3991, 104,00,000 in 4001, 104,50,000 in 4011, 105,00,000 in 4021, 105,50,000 in 4031, 106,00,000 in 4041, 106,50,000 in 4051, 107,00,000 in 4061, 107,50,000 in 4071, 108,00,000 in 4081, 108,50,000 in 4091, 109,00,000 in 4101, 109,50,000 in 4111, 110,00,000 in 4121, 110,50,000 in 4131, 111,00,000 in 4141, 111,50,000 in 4151, 112,00,000 in 4161, 112,50,000 in 4171, 113,00,000 in 4181, 113,50,000 in 4191, 114,00,000 in 4201, 114,50,000 in 4211, 115,00,000 in 4221, 115,50,000 in 4231, 116,00,000 in 4241, 116,50,000 in 4251, 117,00,000 in 4261, 117,50,000 in 4271, 118,00,000 in 4281, 118,50,000 in 4291, 119,00,000 in 4301, 119,50,000 in 4311, 120,00,000 in 4321, 120,50,000 in 4331, 121,00,000 in 4341, 121,50,000 in 4351, 122,00,000 in 4361, 122,50,000 in 4371, 123,00,000 in 4381, 123,50,000 in 4391, 124,00,000 in 4401, 124,50,000 in 4411, 125,00,000 in 4421, 125,50,000 in 4431, 126,00,000 in 4441, 126,50,000 in 4451, 127,00,000 in 4461, 127,50,000 in 4471, 128,00,000 in 4481, 128,50,000 in 4491, 129,00,000 in 4501, 129,50,000 in 4511, 130,00,000 in 4521, 130,50,000 in 4531, 131,00,000 in 4541, 131,50,000 in 4551, 132,00,000 in 4561, 132,50,000 in 4571, 133,00,000 in 4581, 133,50,000 in 4591, 134,00,000 in 4601, 134,50,000 in 4611, 135,00,000 in 4621, 135,50,000 in 4631, 136,00,000 in 4641, 136,50,000 in 4651, 137,00,000 in 4661, 137,50,000 in 4671, 138,00,000 in 4681, 138,50,000 in 4691, 139,00,000 in 4701, 139,50,000 in 4711, 140,00,000 in 4721, 140,50,000 in 4731, 141,00,000 in 4741, 141,50,000 in 4751, 142,00,000 in 4761, 142,50,000 in 4771, 143,00,000 in 4781, 143,50,000 in 4791, 144,00,000 in 4801, 144,50,000 in 4811, 145,00,000 in 4821, 145,50,000 in 4831, 146,00,000 in 4841, 146,50,000 in 4851, 147,00,000 in 4861, 147,50,000 in 4871, 148,00,000 in 4881, 148,50,000 in 4891, 149,00,000 in 4901, 149,50,000 in 4911, 150,00,000 in 4921, 150,50,000 in 4931, 151,00,000 in 4941, 151,50,000 in 4951, 152,00,000 in 4961, 152,50,000 in 4971, 153,00,000 in 4981, 153,50,000 in 4991, 154,00,000 in 5001, 154,50,000 in 5011, 155,00,000 in 5021, 155,50,000 in 5031, 156,00,000 in 5041, 156,50,000 in 5051, 157,00,000 in 5061, 157,50,000 in 5071, 158,00,000 in 5081, 158,50,000 in 5091, 159,00,000 in 5101, 159,50,000 in 5111, 160,00,000 in 5121, 160,50,000 in 5131, 161,00,000 in 5141, 161,50,000 in 5151, 162,00,000 in 5161, 162,50,000 in 5171, 163,00,000 in 5181, 163,50,000 in 5191, 164,00,000 in 5201, 164,50,000 in 5211, 165,00,000 in 5221, 165,50,000 in 5231, 166,00,000 in 5241, 166,50,000 in 5251, 167,00,000 in 5261, 167,50,000 in 5271, 168,00,000 in 5281, 168,50,000 in 5291, 169,00,000 in 5301, 169,50,000 in 5311, 170,00,000 in 5321, 170,50,000 in 5331, 171,00,000 in 5341, 171,50,000 in 5351, 172,00,000 in 5361, 172,50,000 in 5371, 173,00,000 in 5381, 173,50,000 in 5391, 174,00,000 in 5401, 174,50,000 in 5411, 175,00,000 in 5421, 175,50,000 in 5431, 176,00,000 in 5441, 176,50,000 in 5451, 177,00,000 in 5461, 177,50,000 in 5471, 178,00,000 in 5481, 178,50,000 in 5491, 179,00,000 in 5501, 179,50,000 in 5511, 180,00,000 in 5521, 180,50,000 in 5531, 181,00,000 in 5541, 181,50,000 in 5551, 182,00,000 in 5561, 182,50,000 in 5571, 183,00,000 in 5581, 183,50,000 in 5591, 184,00,000 in 5601, 184,50,000 in 5611, 185,00,000 in 5621, 185,50,000 in 5631, 186,00,000 in 5641, 186,50,000 in 5651, 187,00,000 in 5661, 187,50,000 in 5671, 188,00,000 in 5681, 188,50,000 in 5691, 189,00,000 in 5701, 189,50,000 in 5711, 190,00,000 in 5721, 190,50,000 in 5731, 191,00,000 in 5741, 191,50,000 in 5751, 192,00,000 in 5761, 192,50,000 in 5771, 193,00,000 in 5781, 193,50,000 in 5791, 194,00,000 in 5801, 194,50,000 in 5811, 195,00,000 in 5821, 195,50,000 in 5831, 196,00,000 in 5841, 196,50,000 in 5851, 197,00,000 in 5861, 197,50,000 in 5871, 198,00,000 in 5881, 198,50,000 in 5891, 199,00,000 in 5901, 199,50,000 in 5911, 200,00,000 in 5921, 200,50,000 in 5931, 201,00,000 in 5941, 201,50,000 in 5951, 202,00,000 in 5961, 202,50,000 in 5971, 203,00,000 in 5981, 203,50,000 in 5991, 204,00,000 in 6001, 204,50,000 in 6011, 205,00,000 in 6021, 205,50,000 in 6031, 206,00,000 in 6041, 206,50,000 in 6051, 207,00,000 in 6061, 207,50,000 in 6071, 208,00,000 in 6081, 208,50,000 in 6091, 209,00,000 in 6101, 209,50,000 in 6111, 210,00,000 in 6121, 210,50,000 in 6131, 211,00,000 in 6141, 211,50,000 in 6151, 212,00,000 in 6161, 212,50,000 in 6171, 213,00,000 in 6181, 213,50,000 in 6191, 214,00,000 in 6201, 214,50,000 in 6211, 215,00,000 in 6221, 215,50,000 in 6231, 216,00,000 in 6241, 216,50,000 in 6251, 217,00,000 in 6261, 217,50,000 in 6271, 218,00,000 in 6281, 218,50,000 in 6291, 219,00,000 in 6301, 219,50,000 in 6311, 220,00,000 in 6321, 220,50,000 in 6331, 221,00,000 in 6341, 221,50,000 in 6351, 222,00,000 in 6361, 222,50,000 in 6371, 223,00,000 in 6381, 223,50,000 in 6391, 224,00,000 in 6401, 224,50,000 in 6411, 225,00,000 in 6421, 225,50,000 in 6431, 226,00,000 in 6441, 226,50,000 in 6451, 227,00,000 in 6461, 227,50,000 in 6471, 228,00,000 in 6481, 228,50,000 in 6491, 229,00,000 in 6501, 229,50,000 in 6511, 230,00,000 in 6521, 230,50,000 in 6531, 231,00,000 in 6541, 231,50,000 in 6551, 232,00,000 in 6561, 232,50,000 in 6571, 233,00,000 in 6581, 233,50,000 in 6591, 234,00,000 in 6601, 234,50,000 in 6611, 235,00,000 in 6621, 235,50,000 in 6631, 236,00,000 in 6641, 236,50,000 in 6651, 237,00,000 in 6661, 237,50,000 in 6671, 238,00,000 in 6681, 238,50,000 in 6691, 239,00,000 in 6701, 239,50,000 in 6711, 240,00,000 in 6721, 240,50,000 in 6731, 241,00,000 in 6741, 241,50,000 in 6751, 242,00,000 in 6761, 242,50,000 in 6771, 243,00,000 in 6781, 243,50,000 in 6791, 244,00,000 in 6801, 244,50,000 in 6811, 245,00,000 in 6821, 245,50,000 in 6831, 246,00,000 in 6841, 246,50,000 in 6851, 247,00,000 in 6861, 247,50,000 in 6871, 248,00,000 in 6881, 248,50,000 in 6891, 249,00,000 in 6901, 249,50,000 in 6911, 250,00,000 in 6921, 250,50,000 in 6931, 251,00,000 in 6941, 251,50,000 in 6951, 252,00,000 in 6961, 252,50,000 in 6971, 253,00,000 in 6981, 253,50,000 in 6991, 254,00,000 in 7001, 254,50,000 in 7011, 255,00,000 in 7021, 255,50,000 in 7031, 256,00,000 in 7041, 256,50,000 in 7051, 257,00,000 in 7061, 257,50,000 in 7071, 258,00,000 in 7081, 258,50,000 in 7091, 259,00,000 in 7101, 259,50,000 in 7111, 260,00,000 in 7121, 260,50,000 in 7131, 261,00,000 in 7141, 261,50,000 in 7151, 262,00,000 in 7161, 262,50,000 in 7171, 263,00,000 in 7181, 263,50,000 in 7191, 264,00,000 in 7201, 264,50,000 in 7211, 265,00,000 in 7221, 265,50,000 in 7231, 266,00,000 in 7241, 266,50,000 in 7251, 267,00,000 in 7261, 267,50,000 in 7271, 268,00,000 in 7281, 268,50,000 in 7291, 269,00,000 in 7301, 269,50,000 in 7311, 270,00,000 in 7321, 270,50,000 in 7331, 271,00,000 in 7341, 271,50,000 in 7351, 272,00,000 in 7361, 272,50,000 in 7371, 273,00,000 in 7381, 273,50,000 in 7391, 274,00,000 in 7401, 274,50,000 in 7411, 275,00,000 in 7421, 275,50,000 in 7431, 276,00,000 in 7441, 276,50,000 in 7451, 277,00,000 in 7461, 277,50,000 in 7471, 278,00,000 in 7481, 278,50,000 in 7491, 279,00,000 in 7501, 279,50,000 in 7511, 280,00,000 in 7521, 280,50,000 in 7531, 281,00,000 in 7541, 281,50,000 in 7551, 282,00,000 in 7561, 282,50,000 in 7571, 283,00,000 in 7581, 283,50,000 in 7591, 284,00,000 in 7601, 284,50,000 in 7611, 285,00,000 in 7621, 285,50,000 in 7631, 286,00,000 in 7641, 286,50,000 in 7651, 287,00,000 in 7661, 287,50,000 in 7671, 288,00,000 in 7681, 288,50,000 in 7691, 289,00,000 in 7701, 289,50,000 in 7711, 290,00,000 in 7721, 290,50,000 in 7731, 291,00,000 in 7741, 291,50,000 in 7751, 292,00,000 in 7761, 292,50,000 in 7771, 293,00,000 in 7781, 293,50,000 in 7791, 294,00,000 in 7801, 294,50,000 in 7811, 295,00,000 in 7821, 295,50,000 in 7831, 296,00,000 in 7841, 296,50,000 in 7851, 297,00,000 in 7861, 297,50,000 in 7871, 298,00,000 in 7881, 298,50,000 in 7891, 299,00,000 in 7901, 299,50,000 in 7911, 300,00,000 in 7921, 300,50,000 in 7931, 301,00,000 in 7941, 301,50,000 in 7951, 302,00,000 in 7961, 302,50,000 in 7971, 303,00,000 in 7981, 303,50,000 in 7991, 304,00,000 in 8001, 304,50,000 in 8011, 305,00,000 in 8021, 305,50,000 in 8031, 306,00,000 in 8041, 306,50,000 in 8051, 307,00,000 in 8061, 307,50,000 in 8071, 308,00,000 in 8081, 308,50,000 in 8091, 309,00,000 in 8101, 309,50,000 in 8111, 310,00,000 in 8121, 310,50,000 in 8131, 311,00,000 in 8141, 311,50,000 in 8151, 312,00,000 in 8161, 312,50,000 in 8171, 313,00,000 in 8181, 313,50,000 in 8191, 314,00,000 in 8201, 314,50,000 in 8211, 315,00,000 in 8221, 315,50,000 in 8231, 316

on the basic issue of who is to be treated as a foreigner.

The tenability of the National Register of Citizens has been questioned by minority groups on the ground that when it was compiled no opportunity was available to the people to make sure whether their names were recorded or not. Under the Census Act, information collected in the course of census operations is not admissible as evidence under the Indian Evidence Act and the Gauhati High Court has upheld this view.

The Government has, however, gone to the extent of accepting the register as one of the documents but various other supporting evidence like ration cards, postal communications, school certificates, bank accounts, land records or any other document which may provide evidence about the stay of a person in Assam during the relevant period would be taken at par with it. The AASU and AAGSP leadership remains unreconciled to this.

The talk of the differences between the Government and the agitation leaders having narrowed as a result of the prolonged dialogue is somewhat misleading in this background. It is only on peripheral issues that the views of the two sides are not dissimilar. When the AASU team came to Delhi early in February it raised eight main issues. One of them was that the names of immigrants who had returned would have to be struck off the electoral rolls and they should be essentially deported.

Identity Cards

No bones were broken in accepting such a broad definition of objectives and so understanding was quickly reached on this demand. Likewise another demand for fingerprint arrangements to ensure that aliens could not squuggle themselves into the electoral rolls was unexceptionable and was accepted readily.

Towards this end the Government agreed to issue identity cards with photos to all electors in Assam.

The Government also conceded that vigil on the Indo-Bangladesh border was not adequate and agreed to intensify it, though it found the suggestion for sealing the border by building a high wall or barbed wire fencing impractical.

But discussions on three other issues raised during the February deliberations were deferred. One of them has now been settled to the satisfaction of the Assam leaders. The Centre has decided to take into its hands the work of granting citizenship certificates to those who qualify for them. AASU and AAGSP leaders had advocated such a step as their charge was that the district authorities in West Bengal and Tripura particularly were often issuing citizenship certificates without proper verification.

But the Centre has not conceded the demand that all such certificates granted in the past by the district authorities in West Bengal and Tripura should be cancelled nor has any finality been reached on the suggestion that constitutional safeguards be provided for 15 to 20 years for the North-East region to enable it to ward off "outside encroachment."

In the later phases of the negotiations, these issues took the backseat and the basis on which to identify who is a foreigner took up most of the time. The Government's recognition that there are still aliens in Assam and it is willing to deport them is itself a big step forward from the Assamese point of view, for after 1969 very little was being done to detect infiltrators and to pack them back home.

Of course in the 1960s, the undivided Assam Congress had several times drawn the Centre's attention to the problem posed by the presence of a large number of infiltrators. Special tribunals were set up and as a result of judgments handed down by these tribunals, some three lakh Pakistanis (Bangladesh had not then emerged as an independent nation, infiltrators were pushed across the border. Some of them are said to have sneaked back to Assam.

Pandora's Box

But since the agitators wanted to put the clock back to 1951, there could be no common ground between them and the Government. A verification of the nationality of millions of people who have been born in Assam or who have come to live in Assam in the last 29 years, would, in the Government's opinion, open the Pandora's box and its fallout would

hit other parts of the country.

In the course of the negotiations, the Assam leaders have indicated their attitude towards

though reaching 1981 the issue of the date of a census will be more difficult. In the National Register of Citizens, 1971, the data was virtually ignored and no more are expected as of 1981. The solution in the National Register of Citizens, 1971, was to use the data for 1971.

It is also said that the Centre should consider the shift from 1971 to 1981 as a foreigner's right to be declared stateless.

Quarterly Reports

AASU and AACSP leaders have made ad hoc calculations based on the difference between the all-India and Assam rates of population growth, about the number of "foreigners" in Assam, according to these calculations, the number of "aliens" would be 17 lakhs which is almost a third of the State's population. Some 15 lakhs or so are supposed to have come between 1961 and 1971.

If therefore the data of immigration can be pushed back by a decade to 1961, the stand taken by AASU and AACSP would be largely vindicated.

There is an agreement that post-1971 aliens would not only be excluded but also deported. The All India, however, has made no commitment to the Assam leaders. The separation of Bangladesh is not possible, but in some of the India-Bangladesh agreements of 1972, the importance of the separation of Bangladesh will be seen. It is also stated that the separation of Bangladesh is not possible.

This is not the first time that the Centre has been asked to consider the issue of the date of a census. In the National Register of Citizens, 1971, the data was virtually ignored and no more are expected as of 1981. The solution in the National Register of Citizens, 1971, was to use the data for 1971.

How many aliens from Bangladesh have come to Assam since 1971 is anybody's guess. AASU's ad hoc calculations put the number at 15 lakhs or more. On the other hand the Prime Minister said at her press conference in Delhi on Tuesday that they would be 'several thousands' and not millions.

If the disposal of these 'thousands' itself is going to be a major problem where would the Government find new homes for those who entered Assam before 1971 and whom Bangladesh apparently is under no obligation to accept? Mrs. Gandhi has also pointed out the risks involved in declaring large numbers of people stateless.

Detection Machinery

Apart from the National Register of Citizens and the base year from which the work of detecting foreigners is to begin, the two sides find themselves on a sticky wicket on the issue of the machinery to be set up for detection. The agitationists want the Assam Government to handle the work with the local police providing the logistics for weeding out suspects.

The Assam administration's role being not above suspicion, the various minority groups have expressed their strong opposition to the work being left in its hands. They have suggested and the Centre has agreed that a centrally controlled machinery commanding the confidence of all sections will go into the matter.

The Centre's hands have been strengthened to some extent by the support it has received from the various parties and groups in the Assam Assembly to the stand that a solution has to be found within the framework of the Constitution, existing laws, international commitments, national obligations and humanitarian considerations.

It is not surprising that AASU and AACSP leaders have not accepted any international commitment which runs counter to their plea to take 1951 as the base year. But armed with this endorsement by the political leaders of Assam, the Government has gone ahead to declare that it will on its own take up the work of identification from 1971.

It will be simplistic, however, to imagine that conflicts among ethnic groups in Assam will end even if AASU and AACSP eventually accept 1971 as the cut-off year.

BHARATIYA JANATA POLITICAL RESOLUTION REPORTED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 8 Sep 80 p 15

[Text] New Delhi, September 6. The Bharatiya Janata Party said yesterday that Mrs. Gandhi's government was prone to go authoritarian when faced with "abysmal failure" because it did not trust the judiciary, the press, parliament, the opposition parties and even its own party.

In its political resolution, the party's national executive said the Congress(I) government failed to fulfil its three election promises: improving law and order, curbing inflation and promoting communal harmony.

The judiciary was being weakened, the press was being gagged and anti-democratic laws were being enacted by the Centre and the states. "The myth about Mrs. Gandhi being an able leader who can solve the country's problems has by now been totally exploded."

It said that the recent attempts to create a Sanjay cult, to defy him and to hold him as a model to be emulated by the country's youth could not but be deplored by democrats. India was a democracy, not a monarchy.

Moral Degeneration

A growing cynicism had overtaken the ruling party. That 300 members of parliament would petition the Prime Minister to get her son (Mr. Rajiv Gandhi) into politics only revealed the moral degeneration corroding the party.

The BJP also blamed the Congress(I) government of bungling the situation arising out of the foreigners issue in Assam. The situation was complicated by trying to project it as a communal and sectarian issue or a problem between Assam and West Bengal. "Using sectarian methods were used to divide the people," it said.

The party still hoped that a way would be found to persuade the movement leaders to come to the negotiating table.

The party added that, as far as national problems were concerned, such as the one in Assam, or in the matter of national integration, it would be free from "any partisan bias" and would play a constructive role.

by another resolution, the party assailed the government for its failure to hold the price line, pointing out that within ten days of presentation of the budget wholesale prices rose by 6.7 points while the rise during the Janata period was five points annually and 5.4 points after "the much-maligned Charan budget."

(cont. speaking)

The party ridiculed the government's claim that the prices would stabilise after September and may decline in the second half of the financial year. The Union Finance Minister, "Mr. R. Venkataraman's hopes are wishful because government spending is mounting despite the urgings for economy." Between the end of March and the middle of July, bank credit to the government sector increased by Rs. 2,418 crores against Rs. 1,582 crores in the corresponding period last year which witnessed a record volume of deficit financing. As such, the budget deficit of the current year was not likely to be smaller.

Sugar provided an example of mismanagement. With a carryover stock of two million tonnes and this year's production of four million tonnes the position should have been comfortable. But on the eve of the assembly elections the government issued an extra quota of sugar and took an abrupt decision to import two lakh tonnes of this item.

The decision to release 1.75 lakh tonnes in July with the expectation that the balance could be met from the imports which did not materialise created an artificial scarcity and pushed up the sugar prices. "It is difficult to believe that this windfall of Rs. 24 crores for the sugar barons at the cost of the poor consumers, was just accidental and undesigned."

(cont. speaking)

PLAN TO MANUFACTURE JAGUAR DPSA ABANDONED

BKJ41323 Madras THE HINDU in English 17 Nov 80 p 1

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 16--The Jaguar controversy is being settled amicably to the mutual satisfaction of India and Britain by abandoning the programme of manufacturing this expensive Deep Penetration Strike Aircraft [DPSA], but embarking on a joint project for the development of what is called a Light Combat Aircraft [LCA] of the latest design, which will have a world-wide market.

The government proposes to adhere to the first and second phase of the Jaguar contract covering the purchase of 40 to 50 fully assembled aircraft in fly-off condition and the import of an equal number in semi-assembled condition, while giving up the third phase envisaging progressive manufacture of another 100 planes.

The abandonment of the manufacturing part of the Jaguar contract will not attract any penalty payment, since India has retained the option to review this part of the programme in the sense that it made no irrevocable commitment to build these planes under license.

There were several aspects of the contract which remained to be still negotiated and finalised in due course for the progressive manufacture of these planes, bearing in view the escalating cost factors involved.

The Jaguars that India has agreed to buy from British Aerospace are advanced versions embodying several modifications. The manufacturers offered to obtain on loan from the Royal Air Force 18 aircraft of the existing specifications to meet India's more immediate requirements until the modified versions could be built.

These 18 planes are already in squadron service with the air force and will be progressively replaced by the advanced versions according to the delivery schedule provided for in the contract. IAF experts still maintain that the new Jaguar being built to the Indian specifications will be by far the best DPSA available for operational use under sub-continental conditions.

The purchase of 40 to 50 aircraft in fly-off condition and the import of an equal number in semi-assembled condition will enable the IAF to meet its bare requirements for filling the gaps in its strike capacity created by the obsolescence of its Canberra, Hunter and Nashua squadrons. It will also give India enough flexibility

to give up the manufacturing programme of the Jaguar for building another 100 aircraft spread over the 1980's.

The British Aerospace has offered to collaborate with India in designing and developing for joint manufacture a Light Combat Aircraft incorporating the latest technological developments both in its avionics and weapon systems, which will be relatively less expensive and more versatile in its operational uses. This aircraft is to be designed on the basis of a new Rolls Royce engine which has been developed for the Tornado, the next generation DPSA which will replace the Jaguar in due course.

It will give India the extra option of going in for the Tornado during the 1990's when the stage is reached for replacing its Jaguar squadrons. But meanwhile it will be able to acquire the necessary technology from Britain for building the new Light Combat Aircraft.

The two governments are now engaged in wide-ranging discussions on the two inter-related aspects of abandoning the manufacturing part of the Jaguar contract and embarking on a joint programme for designing the airframe and weapon systems for a new LCA. The talks are taking place at both the political and commercial levels with no final commitment yet from either side.

The high-level British Industrial mission that is visiting India next week led by the chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, includes the chairman of the aircraft group of British Aerospace and the managing director of Rolls Royce. The Prince of Wales who will be visiting one of the airbases in the Punjab to witness the performance of the IAF Jaguar squadron, will also be having a look at the HAL (Hindustan Aircraft Limited) in Bangalore where the new LCA will be built, if India and Britain finally embark on this ambitious project with tremendous export potentialities for this particular type of aircraft.

(No: 3270)

WEST BENGAL POPULATION ESTIMATED AT 55 MILLION

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 10 Sep 80 p 9

(Text) The population of West Bengal will rise to 55 million in 1981 against 44 million in 1971. The population in the Calcutta urban agglomeration is estimated, in 1981, to grow at the decennial growth rate of 35.3% to 9.5 million from 7 million in 1971.

The annual population growth rate of West Bengal in 1971-81 is estimated at 2.25% in the rural areas against 1.95% in the rural areas of India and the estimated annual growth rate in the urban areas in 1971-81 in West Bengal is 3.84% against 1.60% in urban areas of India. These are the estimates of the expert committee on population projections of the Registrar General, India.

Mr P. Padmanabha, Registrar General and ex-officio Census Commissioner of India, told a Press conference in Calcutta on Tuesday that the first phase of census in West Bengal—the house-numbering and house-listing operations and filling up of enterprise list, which had started in August 20, would continue till the middle of October. About 103,389 enumerators and 20,696 supervisors would be engaged for census work in the State.

Mr Padmanabha said that the 1981 census would include, for the first time in India, enumeration of handicapped persons and a study of the economic status and academic attainments of the entire population.

He said the first phase of census work in Assam, scheduled to begin in September, had been postponed. In fact, he said, the training programme for enumerators could not be carried out despite "all cooperation from the State Government."

Mr Padmanabha stated that it was not possible to identify foreigners through the census though the trend of migration of population could be gauged.

END: JPH

PLANS TO EXPAND KANDLA PORT DESCRIBED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 10 Sep 80 p 6

[Text] New Delhi, September 9. The working group on ports for the sixth plan has recommended new schemes for creating additional capacities at Kandla port. These include construction of an additional oil jetty, cargo berth and a deep-water cargo berth with mechanised loading facilities for bulk cargo at an estimated cost of Rs. 40.94 crore.

The proposed oil jetty will only replace the existing one, but the other two schemes are expected to provide additional capacity of handling 1.4 million tonnes of cargo. The traffic handled by the port during 1979-80 was 1.66 million tonnes as against 1.59 million tonnes in 1978-79.

The Kandla port has five general cargo berths and two oil jetties. Out of the five cargo berths, one is provided with mechanised handling facilities for fertilisers. The port admits cargo vessels drawing 30 metres draft.

Import-Export Imbalance

The port is facing certain constraints such as imbalance between the import and export cargo and non-availability of sufficient cargo for the Liner ships. This has created a vicious circle of 'no ship, no cargo' and 'no cargo, no ship'. However, the port authorities initiated incentive schemes including lower shipping and port charges since May, 1979, to encourage Liner Traffic at this port. This has paid rich dividends inasmuch as the number of Liner ships calling at the port has considerably increased and the tonnage handled has gone up from 1.34 lakh tonnes to 2.58 lakh tonnes. It is hoped that over a period of time, the gap between the export and import cargo would be considerably reduced.

An offshore terminal at Salaya in the Gulf of Kutch, first of its kind at Indian ports, has been established to feed the two largest oil refineries at Koyali in Bareda and Mathura, when both are in full stream. It has been planned to receive large crude oil carriers up to three lakh tonnes capacity. Some of the infrastructure facilities for this terminal have been established already and some are in the process of setting up. At present, the Koyali refinery is being fed from its oil terminal. The Mathura refinery is under construction.

THREE SLV-3 LAUNCHINGS PLANNED BEFORE 1983

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 10 Sep 80 p 15

[Article by S. Kumar]

[Text] Bombay, September 9. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is expected to launch at least three rockets of the SLV-3 type before 1983 and the first one will be fired in the middle of next year.

It is learnt that the ISRO will soon make an "announcement of opportunities" which will throw open wide-ranging facilities to Indian scientists.

Instead of carrying a tiny, experimental satellite like "Rohini", the rockets would carry meaningful scientific and technological payloads like the testing of indigenously made solar cells in space or the experiments relating to upper atmospheric studies and energy budget.

Early this year, about 500 scientists and researchers in the fields of "upper atmosphere" and "near space environment of the earth" expressed their "concern and near frustration" in their fields of research owing to lack of new and modern facilities and opportunities. Even in fields like space astronomy, cosmic rays, meteorites and allied fields, which have a three-decade-old distinguished tradition, they face a similar problem.

Numerous facilities and opportunities have recently sprung up or are likely to come up during this decade but they have not given the necessary impetus to space science in the country.

Senior space scientists say lack of proper and timely exchange of information between the scientists and the ISRO, lack of familiarity and expertise in sophisticated space techniques, instruments and methods, paucity of financial and other resources and the absence of a national body to provide the needed liaison between the scientists and the ISRO inhibited the maximum usage of existing facilities.

As a sequel to this, the chairman of the ISRO recently set up a high-level, 14-member "Advisory Committee for Space Sciences" (ADCOS) under the chairmanship of Prof. C. F. Daniel of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay.

The main tasks of the ADCOS include encouraging, exploring and evaluating the proposals of Indian space scientists and making suitable recommendations, functioning

as a lobby for the scientists to procure help from national agencies, ensuring appropriate standards in space science programmes and providing a channel of communication to the scientists about ISRO programmes, facilities and opportunities.

The first meeting of the ADCOS at Bangalore in the third week of July decided to break the communication gap. A newsletter service on space science has been started and a group based in Bangalore is working on it. The first issue of the newsletter will come out next month. Also, circular letters have been sent to selected scientists. Efforts are being made to introduce exobiology and material sciences in space which are yet to have a base in the country.

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PTI (P) (P) (P) SURRENDER AFTER 15 YEARS

(Jakarta) PTI (P) (P) (P) 16 Indonesian 11 Sep 89 p. 4

[Article: "Three Terrorists Surrender in North Sulawesi"]

[Excerpt] On 25 September Iop Malonda (52 years old), chief of a terrorist group along with two of his friends Korengkeng (50 years old) and Arie Kaban (60 years old) turned themselves in to Kodam [military Region Command] XIII Merdeka after roaming in the forests of the Minihasa and Bolaang Mongondow districts of North Sulawesi for 15 years.

They were received by the commander of Kodam XIII Merdeka Indonesian Army Brig Gen Widiat at his office and were accompanied by the village chief of Kinaeng village in the Tappan Wara subdistrict. They brought with them one Mauser and one M-16 as well as other equipment which they had used while in the forest.

They said that they were living in the forests and were constantly on the move cutting up from the trees palm, leaves from trees, Arca's palm and the flesh from various animals. From time to time they would stay in one place and then, taking into account production on the edge of the forests to beg or steal and sell the goods.

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After August 1960 only 3 of the 30 people who went into the forests were left, he said, because during that month two more died as a result of sickness. These were M. Mantik and W. Tinangon. Last April Y. Tumerlap died. They were buried in the forest. Of the others some were caught, or disappeared or died in previous years.

Before the G30S/PKI Tep Malonda who has three children was active in his party as central committee secretary for the PKI in the Eris district, while Kaden and Kereangkeng who both have two children were members of the Indonesian Farmers Group (BRI).

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ROCKETTELLER PRAISES INDONESIAN PLAY TO REDUCE DEPENDENCY ON OIL

JAKARTA PHILIA in Indonesian 26 Sep 80 p 6

[Article: "Rocketteller On Indonesia: Succeeded in Restoring Confidence Among International Money Circles"]

[Text] As a result of its good economic management, the Indonesian government has succeeded in restoring the confidence of the international money circles, after difficult periods for Indonesia during 1975.

This was said by the chairman of Chase Manhattan Bank David Rocketteller in a press conference in Jakarta on 26 September. He arrived in Jakarta that same day as part of a working visit to Asia.

Rocketteller who has a doctorate in economics said that Indonesia is now the most stable country in the Far East.

He also praised the Indonesian government's plan to diversify its export commodity production.

He said he was glad to see the good rice harvest in Indonesia this year and the stable situation of the rupiah since the devaluation of the rupiah in the end of 1976.

Long exports of rice make a great contribution to the country's foreign exchange. Rocketteller said that the steps now being taken by the Indonesian government to reduce its dependency on oil are a acknowledged stride in having a diversified export policy.

Long production of rice makes Indonesia after oil, could become the main Indonesian export in the near future. And there are vast potential resources in the country, such as rubber and other competitive exports along with rice, which would be good.

Concerning the question of the bank's credit to Indonesia, he said that the Indonesian government has managed to get the Chase Manhattan Bank to help in the 1977-1978 period.

He said he hoped that the bank would continue to help Indonesia in the future.

This Rockefeller visit to Indonesia is perhaps his last as chairman of Chase Manhattan.

Willard C. Butcher, President and Chief Executive Officer of Chase Manhattan, will become chairman when Rockefeller retires next April after pursuing his career with the bank since 1946.

In Jakarta Rockefeller will also pay courtesy visits to Indonesian government leaders and will meet with important high ranking bank and business people there.

Rockefeller said that the bank had become the "leading bank" and the "joint leading bank" by making four syndicated loans to Indonesian businesses in the last 11 months.

Chase Manhattan is also a part of the management group for a Eurodollar syndicate which has provided credit to the Indonesian government for many years, he added.

Concerning other aspects of merchant banking, Rockefeller feels there will be the trend in Indonesia toward project financing without government guarantees in which the banks will have the opportunity to loan money directly to joint venture projects and then to bring in Indonesian government owned companies.

Project financing, he added, is needed to expand oil refineries and other activities related to energy.

In this relation, he pointed to the international acknowledgement that Chase Manhattan is the most important oil bank in the world.

Rockefeller has already visited the capitals of five ASEAN [Association of South East Asian Nations] countries in addition to several other important Asian cities.

ASEAN unity is becoming more remarkable and is now acknowledged by many countries in the world as a positive force, he said.

Ultimately ASEAN won't develop into an international force if the countries individually don't succeed in developing a sense of reliance on themselves in managing their own domestic affairs, Rockefeller said.

INDONESIAN RICE PRODUCTION UP BY 11 PERCENT IN 1980

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 26 Sep 80 pp 1, 7

[Article: Estimates Indicate Domestic Rice Production Will Reach 19,908 Million Tons This Year"]

[Text] Flanked by the directors general of the department of agriculture Minister of Agriculture Sudarsono Hadisapuro said in a working session with Indonesian Parliamentary Commission IV (Agriculture and Manpower and Transmigration) at the Parliament Building in Senayan that estimates indicate that domestic rice production will reach 19,980 [sic] tons in 1980. This is an increase of 11.1 percent over 1979 production.

This increase of two million tons in rice production is due to an increased use of fertilizer, expansion of areas planted with pest resistant rice or that areas infested with plant diseases have decreased to a great extent and to the relatively good weather, among other reasons.

He said that efforts to maintain and increase food production, particularly rice, have been carried out through improved service for production requirements such as fertilizer and pesticides using a four "exacts" basis, namely exact time, exact kind, exact amount and exact place. In addition expansion and improvement have been carried out in producing more quality pest resistant seed types, and secondary crop seeds, in holding down plant diseases and infestation, in improving and expanding irrigation networks and in expanding specific intensification areas.

Regarding animal raising, the minister said that projected growth in per capita consumption of cow and carabao meat during Pelita III (Third Five Year Development Plan) period is to increase each year of around 6.1 percent. The per capita consumption of beef during 1979 was 3.46 kg. This was an increase of 3.1 percent over the average 1974-1978 consumption. This increase is actually due to the continuing growth of the economy and the purchasing ability of the public with remaining 1979 development. He added that the decrease in the overall number of exports will be reached during Pelita III by efforts which are expected to increase the number of cattle by 1.3 percent but with no increase in the number of exports.

With the development with raising he aimed at reaching goals of increased beef production during 1979-1983 through the use of 30 slaughtering, imports from 100,000 and 500,000 head of the reproduction of beef cattle to the transmigration in 1980.

potential areas. In order to overcome the yearly shortage of meat, and according to estimates will continue to increase, a special program will be initiated for the larger cities substituting broiler chicken.

Concerning fisheries, the minister of agriculture said that based on provisional data for 1979, fish production reached 1,737,000 tons that year consisting of 1,305,000 tons (75 percent) of salt water fish and 432,000 tons of fresh water fish. Compared to 1978 these figures indicate an average increase of 6.4 percent for salt water fish and 5.4 percent for fresh water fish.

Answering a Commission question on plantations the minister said that the amount of land under cultivation in plantations, according to 1978 data, is 7,048,764 hectares. This consists of public plantations with 6,123,164 (85.75 percent), state-owned plantations with 581,781 hectares (8.12 percent) and private plantations with 433,020 hectares (6.16 percent). To catch up [with the national goals] during Pelita III a plan has been initiated to develop plantations faster than originally intended and to increase production through expansion, upgrading, intensification and rehabilitation.

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SOME 130 VOLCANOS FOUND IN INDONESIA

LAKRITA PELITA in Indonesian 17 Sep 50 pp 1, 7

[Article: "Indonesia Rich in Volcanos"]

[Excerpts] Indonesia is considered a nation rich in volcanoes, having no less than 130 percent of all the volcanos in the world.

The 130 volcanos found in Indonesia are scattered through the islands of Java, Sumatra, Sulawesi, the Maluku archipelago, Bali and the Lesser Sundas. Some 120 of the 130 volcanos are considered active, according to information obtained by ANTAH from the Director of Volcanology of the Directorate General of General Mining in Bandung.

The Director of Mining is the highest authority in the field of volcanoes in Indonesia. Of the 130 volcanos 16 have at one time or another erupted. In addition there are 76 volcanos that are under constant supervision because of their threatening a vicinity.

The largest number of volcanos in Indonesia is found on the island of Java which has 37. The second highest number is found in Sumatra which has 30. Bali and the Lesser Sundas have 23 followed by Sulawesi with 18, the Banda archipelago with 7, the North Maluku with 6 and there is 1 in the Sunda Strait.

Records kept by the Director of volcanology in Bandung, there are many volcanos in Indonesia which have recorded volcanic eruptions. The latest figures show that approximately 10,000 square kilometers of land are under the threat of lava flows or of other materials from erupting volcanos. This area which is under threat has a population of 2.5 million people. Volcanos in Indonesia are of three types, A, B and C. Type A are those that have erupted. There are 16 of these in Indonesia. There are 30 type B and the rest are type C.

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KATHMANDU PAPER SUPPORTS KING'S ACTIVE ROLE IN POLITICS

KATHMANDU, Kathmandu, THE RISING NEPAL in English & Nep. NO p. 2

[Editorial: "Timely Emphasis"]

[Text]. Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa was only emphasizing a manifest reality when stating at the 14th District Assembly Session of Gulmi at Tanghas the other day that the active leadership of his majesty the king would continue forever. The prime minister's statement is irrevocably corroborated by the undeniable fact that, as he himself rightly put it, the fundamental outcome of the National Referendum held this year in May was the endorsing, once and for all, the active role of the crown in Nepal's political system. Indeed, it is clearly manifest from the outcome of the National Referendum that the people recognized without any doubts in their minds that the crown must continue to play a central role in Nepal's political life and that the crown's leadership is indispensable for the nation's political evolution. Prime Minister Thapa was hitting the nail on the head in pointing out that the "people in the referendum had voted for the reformed Panchayat system, unequivocally endorsing the active leadership of the crown and that the fact needed no substantiation that his majesty would continue to bless the system." For the National Referendum outcome, indeed strongly reflected the ingrained faith that the Nepalese people have reposed in the crown's leadership for guiding the nation's destiny as well as their timeless tradition of looking up to the institution of monarchy whenever the question of safeguarding the national integrity, independence and sovereignty arise.

Those who talked of an alternative to the crown's active role in the country's political system have thus been accurately described by the prime minister as people given to day dreaming. Beyond the reality of the crown's active role in the nation's destiny being there to stay, the prime minister's observation that the National Referendum has consolidated the Panchayat system is both relevant as well as factual. The National Referendum has decided once and for all, as Prime Minister Thapa noted, as to the kind of political system best suited to the country and this leaves no room for further arguments about alternatives on this score. Looking at the prevailing situation from this light, the prime minister's advice to the political majority that they should adjust to the political path charted out by the people is both sound and timely. For there can be no dispute with the irrefutable fact that respect for the majority is very much in keeping with democratic practice. At the same time, it may be said that the referendum has demonstrated that the people are also in favour of gradual reforms within the wide framework of the Panchayat system and, as the prime minister rightly noted, his majesty the king has been in favour of desirable reforms, as is the case of Panchas. Within such a frame of reference, the people should fully understand that they, in time, will be electing members to the country's highest legislature on the basis of adult franchise and they should therefore be ready to act in ways that will further promote and develop democracy in the country in the years to come keeping these obvious political realities in mind.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM--His majesty the king has appointed royal Nepalese ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, Ramhari Sharma concurrently royal Nepalese ambassador to Belgium, reports RSS. This was stated in a notice issued in Kathmandu on 2 November by the principal press secretariat of his majesty the king. [Text] [BKIA/DOS Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 3 Nov 80 p 1]

TRADE DEFICITS--Customs-based trade statistics for the first nine months of fiscal year 1979/80 showed a trade deficit of Rs. 1671.5 million as comparable deficit in the last fiscal year was Rs. 1129.0 million, reports RSS. Nepal Rastriya Bank says during the period under review, total exports amounted to Rs. 707.6 million and total imports to Rs. 2779.1 million. Against last year's figures, the total exports declined by Rs. 181.2 million (20.6 percent) while the total import went up by Rs. 779.1 million (17.7 percent). Direction-wise, trade with India constituted 51.1 percent of the country's total trade compared with 54.2 percent during the corresponding period last year. Sharp contraction in exports to India by Rs. 124.7 million (30.0 percent) to Rs. 291.9 million was the sole factor contributing to this development. Imports from India went up by Rs. 188.3 million (16.7 percent) to Rs. 1448.9 million. [Text] [BKIA/DOS Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 3 Nov 80 p 1]

(200: 4220)

NEW ZEALAND: U.S. ANTARCTIC PROGRAMS GET UNDERWAY

Scott Base Accommodations

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 29 Sep 80 p 18

[F0017]

Construction of a new accommodation block at Scott Base will be top priority for the New Zealand 1980-81 Antarctic programme due to begin on October 8.

The existing base, designed for a maximum of 20 scientists, has been bursting at the seams for the past 10 years, often coping with up to 40 summer season residents.

Foundations were laid last year for a new accommodation and ablution block designed for up to 80 people,

and the prefabricated buildings are expected to arrive at the base in January.

New Zealand Army and Air Force staff will man the cargo-handling facilities at both Christchurch airport and McMurdo Sound throughout the summer operations.

A team of 20 construction workers will erect the building "shells" and the project is due to be completed in the 1981-82 season.

A diesel-fired power unit for the base was installed last year and is operating a desalination plant producing about 18,000 gallons of fresh water a day.

The superintendent of the Antarctic division of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Mr R. B. Thomson, said the coming season would be one of consolidation, with the main emphasis on the base reconstruction programme.

A series of "category A" research programmes will also be run, however, and 47 scientists from universities and government departments will be stationed at either Scott Base or the nearby Vanda Station, due to be reopened in mid-October.

A total of 100 New Zealanders will take part in the summer programme and 11 will

winter over at Scott Base in 1981.

Three international projects will feature in the programme, including a volcanological study on Mt Erebus with American and Japanese scientists as well as New Zealanders.

A joint American-New Zealand team will study geological strata in the Dry Valley region and Japanese scientists will team up with New Zealanders for the 10th consecutive year for other work in the Dry Valleys.

Oceanographic and geophysical surveys will be carried out in the Ross Sea in January in a 10-day research cruise in a specially equipped ship, the Benjamin Bowring.

Joint Research Projects

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 7 Oct 80 p 6

[F0017]

The New Zealand and United States 1980-81 Antarctic summer programmes began yesterday with two flights from Christchurch to McMurdo Sound.

Some 150 Americans and 50 New Zealanders were flown to McMurdo Sound by United States Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft. Two more flights are set for tomorrow,

and another two will go south on Friday.

Research projects involving American scientists this season include an extensive survey of krill and an astronomical study of the surface of the Sun from the South Pole.

A search will be made of scattered sites in the Antarctic for meteorites. Some

meteorites found in the Antarctic give new clues about the origin of life on earth because the continent's ice and cold protect the specimens from chemical reactions, contamination and erosion.

University of Nebraska scientists will drill about 500 metres into the ice at the South Pole to extract

core for later examination. The core will be the longest taken from the Pole as previous coring was taken from depths less than 120m.

Ice cores are seen as important for studying past climate, because they contain various components of deposits.

The active volcano on Mount Erebus will also be studied.

Editorial Lauds Cooperation

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 9 Oct 80 p 18

[Editorial: "Antarctic Co-operation"]

[Text]

Cooperation in the Antarctic takes various forms. One of the most important is personal co-operation among the people of many countries who work there. The harsh environment makes survival a constant concern for everyone and reminds all of a shared humanity. A second form of co-operation exists in the transport and other arrangements of which the best example is that in which New Zealand, the United States, and Australia work together. Some of the international links in these two forms of co-operation are formal and some informal. The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (S.C.A.R.) embodies, possibly more than any other organisation associated with the Antarctic, the spirit and the letter of co-operation. A number of eminent New Zealand scientists have been associated with S.C.A.R. Professor G. A. Knox, professor of zoology at the University of Canterbury, is halfway through a four-year term as president. These associations make it all the more appropriate that New Zealand should be chosen as the venue for the sixteenth S.C.A.R. meeting, to be held in Queenstown for two weeks beginning next Monday.

S.C.A.R. co-ordinates and exchanges information about scientific activity in Antarctica. It lies at the very heart of all the national scientific programmes in Antarctica. Each country associated with S.C.A.R. makes infor-

mation on its activities, its equipment, and its findings available to all the others. There is no direct, formal link between S.C.A.R. and the Antarctic Treaty governments, but they regard S.C.A.R. as the primary source of scientific advice. The committee, for instance, was asked by the treaty governments to assess the environmental impact of possible mineral exploitation in the Antarctic. The committee usually conducts its researches through a group of scientific experts and it followed this practice for the environmental impact report. A group of specialists reported to the next treaty meeting in 1977.

S.C.A.R. is open to countries which are engaged in research in Antarctica. Some of the more important aspects of its work have been on meteorology and marine resources. The Antarctic plays an enormous role in the climate of southern latitudes and Antarctica also offers opportunities to study the mechanisms by which solar activity can influence weather and climate. S.C.A.R. has been deeply engaged in an Antarctic research programme called BIOMASS, which is aimed at understanding how all Antarctic marine life is related so that sound management may be practised. Some competition among countries engaged in the Antarctic has long been evident. The continued work of S.C.A.R. provides evidence that co-operation, not competition, is the more significant force.

Research Cuts Welcomed

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 6 Oct 80 p 30

[Text] Christchurch, Oct 3 (PA)--Restrictions on Antarctic science programmes caused by rising fuel costs could be a blessing in the long term, according to the head of the international body governing Antarctic research.

Professor George Knox, president of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, was commenting on the announcement that the United States Antarctic programme for this season has hit by escalating fuel prices.

He said that although the restraints would be a blow to some science programmes, the cuts "may be a good thing in the long term" if they slowed down the exploitation of krill in Antarctic waters.

Many scientists were concerned that countries might rush into the exploitation of krill, before research into the species was completed.

The economics of catching, processing, and marketing krill had yet to be proved, Professor Knox said today from his office in the Zoology Department at the University of Canterbury.

The Commander of the United States Naval Support

Force (Captain J M Pearigen) said here that a trebling in aviation fuel prices since the beginning of fiscal 1979 had led to cuts in the U S Antarctic programme.

The budget for the summer programme is \$55,000,000.

Although this represents an increase of \$3,000,000 on last season's budget, it is still \$4,000,000 less than what the U S National Science Foundation applied to Congress for.

Various projects have been abandoned this season, including the recovery of the damaged Hercules aircraft which has been stranded in the Antarctic for several years.

The U S base at Signe Station will be closed at the end of the summer season.

Various construction programmes will be trimmed.

Cooperative Ecosystem Study

Wellington - THE EVENING POST In English 22 Oct 80 p 12

[File 17]

QUEENSTOWN, Oct 20 (PA). — Fourteen ships from different nations will work simultaneously in southern waters this summer on a co-operative ecosystem study.

The study, backed by 13 nations, will concentrate on krill, and is the largest biological oceanographic programme yet mounted.

But the New Zealand president of the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research, Sear, Professor G A Knox, of Canterbury University's Zoology Department, today cautioned the 64 delegates and observers at the organisation's 16th meeting here about the dangers of such big interdisciplinary programmes.

"We have lived through the era of pioneer scientific

exploration of Antarctica," he said in his opening address.

"We are now approaching an era in which economic and consequently political interests may tend to dominate Antarctic research activities."

"In addition, within Sear itself, there is the danger of concentration on responses to requests from the Antarctic Treaty (nations) and that large interdisciplinary research programmes designed to provide the scientific basis for resource management and assessment of environmental impact may be detrimental to the individual scientific disciplines as represented by the permanent working groups of Sear."

Impact on Environment

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 23 Oct 80 p 10

[Text]

Press Assn Queenstown

The Minister of Science and Technology, Mr Birch, says the significance of the Antarctic as one of the world's untouched, unexplored environmental resources poses very weighty problems.

Opening the 16th meeting of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research in Queenstown yesterday, Mr Birch said: "One of the most important questions the world faces is whether we should intrude on Antarctica to extract its resources."

A clear view had arisen for a programme for international co-operation.

Mr Birch told the committee he would like to see some degree of legislative control to ensure the least amount of impact upon the natural environment.

"It is my hope that through the efforts of organisations like the committee, man's continued presence in the Antarctic region will be both sensitive and far-sighted and based on scientific data rather than short-term exigencies."

Conservationists' Statement

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 31 Oct 80 p 16

[Text]

Press Assn Wellington

Conservationists in Australia and New Zealand have joined forces to propose that the Antarctic region be preserved in its natural state.

"Antarctica is the last great unspoiled wilderness in the world," the chairman of the Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand, Dr Hugh Barr, said yesterday.

Any immediate benefits from exploiting Antarctic resources must be set against

its value to future generations when left untouched.

The conservationists want the Governments of New Zealand and Australia to ensure Antarctica will retain its value as a wilderness by banning exploitation of minerals and hydrocarbons within their areas.

They also want the two Governments to make a joint effort to get United Nations backing for conservation in the Antarctic and to persuade other countries to do the same.

GGN: 4210

NEW ZEALAND SEEKS TO AVOID BECOMING TERRORIST HAVEN.

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 3 Oct 80 p 4

/Text/ The possibility of New Zealand becoming a haven for international terrorists was raised in Parliament yesterday.

It was brought up by both the National and Labour parties during debate on the Crimes (Internationally Protected Persons and Hostages) Bill.

Giving effect in New Zealand law to two international conventions, the Bill is designed to avoid the situation where New Zealand could become a safe haven for terrorists or people taking hostages.

The Bill was reported back from Parliament's Statutes Revision Select Committee by committee chairman Mr Barry Brill (Kapiti) who outlined four main amendments.

These were:

- Removal of an element of retrospectivity in the Bill so that no person could be extradited for an offence that was not an extraditable crime when it was committed.
- That the Minister of Justice or a Court may refuse to surrender a person for extradition on ethnic as well as racial, religious, national or political grounds.
- That no person need be surrendered to another

country for trial if proceedings had been or were to be brought in New Zealand.

- Provision for the Minister to have wide discretion to refuse the surrender of a person who would become liable for the death penalty in a Commonwealth country seeking the extradition.

The statutes revision committee was attracted to the idea of having a total ban on extradition where the death penalty was involved, Mr Brill told the House.

Several specific considerations had determined against such a course, however.

First, although a number of States retained the death penalty for certain crimes, it could be practically certain, Mr Brill said, that the penalty would not be imposed in any particular case.

Also, it would be undesirable for New Zealand to become known as some sort of "political terrorist haven."

"There could be occasions when it would be totally against the interest of New Zealand citizens gener-

ally to be obliged to hold a person belonging to an international terrorist gang rather than extraditing him," Mr Brill said.

"Such a situation could conceivably lead to a great upsurge of terrorist activity within New Zealand itself, carried out with the aim of securing the release of the detained person."

But the Labour Opposition did not agree with the amendment. Christchurch Central MP Mr Geoffrey Palmer said:

Recognising the practical difficulties involved, Labour nevertheless believed that the death penalty was an inhumane punishment and not congenial to our legislation.

Mr Brill criticised this and said if New Zealand became a haven to where people fled then the country could readily expect terrorist groups would start taking New Zealand hostages, start hijacking New Zealand planes to force the New Zealand Government to release the criminals the country didn't want in the first place.

TUNNEL OF TARBELA DAM TO BE CONVERTED INTO POWER GENERATING CHANNEL

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 80 p 4

[Text] The Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) has decided to convert the fourth tunnel of the giant Tarbela Dam into a power generation channel instead of using simply to supply irrigation water as envisaged in the original plan.

This was stated today in an interview by the Chairman of the Authority, Maj.-Gen. (retd) Fazli-Razik. He said that he would be going to the United States next month to discuss with the World Bank authorities various studies conducted by WAPDA to maximize power generation from the Tarbela Dam and arrange finances needed for this purpose.

He said the decision to construct a power house on the fourth tunnel besides the first three tunnels meant that the proposed repair work on the stilling basin of the fourth tunnel and its conversion into a fillip bucket type basin would not be carried out now. The World Bank had already 80 million dollars qualifying tenders for the repair work, but these funds were now expected to be made available for the setting up of the power house.

Gen. Fazli-Razik said the WAPDA had undertaken studies which showed that power generation at Tarbela could be increased to 4000 megawatts from the 2100 megawatt stipulated in the original plan.

The Authority has also decided to add a fifth unit to the four units already being installed on the second tunnel of the dam. This single new unit would generate more than 400 megawatts and would greatly help in meeting the power needs of the coming years.

He said that WAPDA was conducting its studies to produce maximum power from the hydel power houses in view of the current world wide energy crisis. It was now possible, in view of latest discoveries in the field of power generation, that units to be installed at Kalabagh might be of the range of 700 megawatt each.

The Authority has also planned to build smaller power houses on both the Kaghan and Swat rivers, besides the two big power houses to be built on Jehlum at Kohala and Abbasian.

The Chairman also disclosed that WAPDA has decided to ultimately extend the proposed 220 kv transmission line from Tarbela to Mardan up to Marri Indus through Peshawar so as to stabilize power supply in southern region of Frontier Province.

CSO: 4270

OIL PIPELINE FROM KARACHI TO MULTAN COMPLETED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 80 p 8

[Text] A pipeline which is to carry crude oil from Karachi to Multan has been completed and its testing will be over in a month's time.

This was stated by the Managing Director of Pak-Arab Refinery, Maj. Gen. Ghulam Safdar Butt, in an interview broadcast in the current affairs programme of Radio Pakistan.

He said the 865 kilometre pipeline from Karachi to Gujrat near Multan would carry three million tons of oil and petroleum products to meet the oil requirements of upcountry regions. These supplies would include those for upper Sind and Baluchistan to be distributed through a pipeline take off near Shikarpur. In the first stage, two pumping stations installed at Korangi and Shikarpur, would pump 9,000 tons of oil a day.

Later, two more pumping stations, at Bubak and Fazilpur, would be commissioned to meet the increasing demand when the off take of oil would rise to 4.5 million tons a year. Besides the pumping stations there would be two terminal stations with capacious storage tanks.

Delivery system

The Managing Director said a delivery system had been installed at Shikarpur for supplying oil products to upper Sind and Baluchistan. Gujrat would receive supplies, from the pipeline from where it would be pumped to the bulk oil installations at Mahmood Kot. From there oil would be transported through tanker trains and lorries.

Stressing the economic benefits of the project, Maj-Gen Ghulam Safdar Butt said the pipeline would not only provide a regular dependable and less expensive mode of transportation of high speed diesel, light diesel and kerosine oil to upcountry but also considerably help save foreign exchange. He estimated savings in costs of transportation alone at around Rs. 400 million.

The Pak-Arab Refinery Chief thanked the Emirate of Abu Dhabi for its financial assistance for the project.

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